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CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Israelyan Calls for Chemical Weapons Moratorium AA 1
PRAVDA Views NATO 'Response' to Arms Proposals AA 1
[Nikolayev, 17 Dec]
Chervov Describes 'Destabilizing Nature' of SDI AA 3
[Bratislava PRAVDA 11 Dec]
U.S. Violation of SALT II Poses 'Danger' AA 6
[Chernyshev]

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

PRAVDA's Afanasyev Argues Need for Coexistence CC 1
[PRAVDA 5 Dec]
Foreign Ministry's Pyadyshev Briefs Journalists CC 6
Assesses NATO Session CC 6
Gorbachev Japan Trip Postponed CC 6
Telebridge Accord With U.S. CC 7
Jamming of Western Broadcasts Said Ending in Jan CC 7
[Stockholm]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Further Reportage on Visit of Senator Hart A 1
Meets Dobrynin 15 Dec A 1
Received by Shevardnadze A 1
Hart Interviewed on SDI A 2
U.S. Press Probes Reagan, Regan Role in 'Irangate' A 3
[Alekseyev]
Resigning NSC Staffers Part of Carlucci 'Purge' A 4
[Ignatyev]
IZVESTIYA Sues U.S. Citizen For 'Defamation' A 4

NORTHEAST ASIA

ROK 'Slander' Against DPRK Dam Project Viewed C 1
[Lapin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 9 Dec]
Japan's Kuranari Meets Shultz, NATO Officials C 1
[Ovchinnikov in PRAVDA 14 Dec]
Briefs: DPRK Light Industry Pact C 2

SOUTH ASIA

Najibullah Informs PDPA Leadership on Visit D 1
Afghan Media Cited on Najibullah Visit D 1
[Okulov in PRAVDA 15 Dec]

Air Defense Chief Koldunov Leaves for India D 2
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Dec]
Briefs: Indian Ferrous Metallurgy
Indian Nonferrous Metallurgy D 2

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Government Statement on Rarotonga Treaty E 1
[PRAVDA 16 Dec]
Shevardnadze Sends Message to S. Pacific Forum E 2
[PRAVDA 16 Dec]
Ligachev Addresses Vietnamese Party Congress E 4
Ligachev Meets With Cambodia's Heng Samrin E 9

EASTERN EUROPE

Further Reportage on 12 Dec Berlin Air Crash F 1
Leadership Condoles GDR F 1
GDR Offers Condolences F 1
[PRAVDA 15 Dec]
Hungary's Lazar To Visit in Late December F 1
Further Reportage on Visit of SFRY's Renovica F 1
'New Big Stride' Made F 1
[Polegayev]
Renovica Satisfied With Visit F 2

WESTERN EUROPE

Naval Detachment Visit to Greece Assessed G 1
[Bystrov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Dec]
Ryzhkov To Visit Finland 'First Half of January' G 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on Visit of Libya's Mansur H 1
Talks With Gromyko H 1
Departs 16 Dec H 2
Iranian Criticism of Mass Media 'Surprising' H 3

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

New Kazakhstan CP First Secretary Profiled R 1
Ukrainian CP CC Holds Plenum 8 December R 1
[PRAVDA UKRAINY 9 Dec]
Razumovskiy Reads CPSU Greetings to Veterans R 2
Vorotnikov Attends Soiree Honoring Choir R 2
Belorussian Prices Committee Chairman Appointed R 3
[ZVYAZDA 6 Dec]
Black Sea Disaster Results in Party Reprimands R 3
[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 27 Nov]
News Briefing Held on Chernobyl Cleanup R 4
[Baklanov in IZVESTIYA 16 Dec]
Anti-Epidemic Precautions in Pripyat Detailed R 6
[Vilenskiy in PRAVDA UKRAINY 11 Dec]
Officials Discuss State Acceptance Service R 6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

PRAVDA Assesses Jan-Nov Industrial Performance [15 Dec] S 1
TASS Explains New Foreign Trade Regulations [Bubnov] S 2
Abuse of Quality Price Supplements Hit [EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 50, Dec] S 3
IZVESTIYA Discusses Consumer Goods Pricing [Berger, 13 Dec] S 5

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Central Committee Resolution on Agriculture T 1
CSA Cited on Jan-Nov Agricultural Performance [PRAVDA 15 Dec] T 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmos-1807 Launched 16 Dec, 'Operating Normally' U 1
Scientists Hold Moscow Meeting on Phobos Project U 1
Resolution Adopted on Technology Training U 2
Briefs: Laser Mineral Exploration U 2

ISRAELYAN CALLS FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS MORATORIUM

LD161712 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Geneva December 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev writes:

The head of the Soviet delegation at the Disarmament Conference Viktor Israelyan has said that there is hope for the conclusion of a convention banning chemical weapons already in 1987, given all the participants in the talks display the necessary political will and interest.

Speaking at a press conference today before the conclusion of a regular round of the multilateral talks on the prohibition of chemical weapons within the framework of the Disarmament Conference, he stressed that this question is now acquiring special importance. Firstly, after the meeting in Reykjavik has demonstrated the possibility of creating a nuclear-free world it is now important to generate an impetus in other fields of disarmament as well, Israelyan said.

Secondly, he went on, it is necessary to avert a new spiral in the chemical weapons race in connection with the decision of the United States to start late next year the production of a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary ones. Otherwise the conclusion of the convention will be put off for many years, if not forever, Israelyan said further. Causing concern are also recent reports from France about its plans to start implementing a programme of chemical weapons of its own.

On the other hand, the Soviet representative stated, talks on abandoning chemical weapons have reached such a stage when a convention on this matter could be worked out already at the next session of the Disarmament Conference.

Viktor Israelyan characterised the Soviet Union's constructive approach to this question and the latest Soviet proposals concerning monitoring the non-production of chemical weapons in commercial industry and the system of verification.

With the aim of making the talks easier the Soviet side took for the basis the earlier made British proposal concerning verification on request. At the same time it proposed to the United States to announce a joint moratorium on the production and deployment of chemical weapons, including binary ones. This proposal should be acceptable to the United States, he said further, because according to contentions by American representatives the United States is not manufacturing such weapons at present.

The head of the Soviet delegation called on the partners in the talks to step up work so as not to miss the unique chance to exclude for ever yet another terrible weapon of mass annihilation from military arsenals.

PRAVDA VIEWS NATO 'RESPONSE' TO ARMS PROPOSALS

PM161738 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Ye. Nikolayev article: "A Response, or an Evasion?"]

[Text] Another NATO Council session ended the other day. And although it was a routine session, the results were awaited not without interest by the whole of political Europe. [paragraph continues]

At last, after 6 months of all kinds of studies and examinations, the North Atlantic bloc was to give a response -- at least, so it was promised -- to the Warsaw Pact countries' concrete proposals on limiting armed forces and armaments in Europe, put forward in June of this year. This delay in replying might have been justified to some extent if it had been due to the interests of the cause: The Warsaw Pact countries' proposals are a major initiative-making provision for substantial, precisely scheduled reductions of ground forces and tactical strike aircraft on the European continent, as well as reductions in operational-tactical nuclear arms. Such serious proposals naturally required a serious response.

But now the so-called response is ready. Verbose, widely publicized documents are adopted. And what do we see? The unsophisticated might even form the impression, from the declaration and communique adopted by the NATO Council, that their mood is businesslike. There is a mention of the need for a broad approach to conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals. It appears that some of the Warsaw Pact countries' ideas on this score have been taken up, too. But if you look more carefully it becomes obvious that the NATO documents do not propose any solutions. Moreover, not only do they lack concrete responses to the questions of where, when, and how to conduct talks on reducing armed forces and conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals, but there is not even any mention of the proposals contained in the Budapest appeal of the Warsaw Pact countries.

Hypocrisy, unfounded assertions, and gulfs between words and deeds have long been the usual tactics used by Western states to avoid responding to any concrete, businesslike proposals from the socialist countries on lessening military confrontation and on disarmament in Europe. The results of the NATO Council session are only one example of this approach by the North Atlantic bloc to the most acute problems of the European continent's life.

In this light there is nothing surprising about the fact of a 6-month delay in issuing documents which are not about disarmament, but about some abstract philosophy of "conventional arms control," or about the fact that they are planning to prolong such verbal exercises almost endlessly, envisaging putting the preparation of documents of this kind onto a regular footing in the future.

The reluctance to begin concrete talks on this problem is also indicated by the NATO countries' refusal to establish direct contacts between corresponding working groups of NATO and the Warsaw Pact concerned with this question, by the reluctance of General B. Rogers, commander in chief of the North Atlantic bloc's forces, to respond to our proposal and meet with Marshal V.G. Kulikov, commander of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces, and by the refusal of NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington to hold the proposed discussions with Warsaw Pact plenipotentiary representative G. Krolikowski.

Much was said in the NATO countries about the "Soviet military threat" in the sphere of conventional armed forces and about the impossibility of nuclear disarmament in the conditions of the preservation of high potentials in the conventional arms sphere. However, when it came to the point of discussing and adopting concrete measures to reduce conventional arms, it turned out that the West's interest in reducing them receded.

The philosophy of so-called conventional arms control set forth in the documents of the NATO Council session also looks odd. The impression created is that just in case talks really do start on this score, the NATO states would like to "prepare the ground" now, in the form of all kinds of barriers and obstacles which could be used to thwart the adoption of any concrete decisions at the talks.

It emerges from the NATO documents that the North Atlantic bloc sees it as the main objective to eliminate the supposed lack of equilibrium in conventional arms in Europe, and basically to bring about a unilateral reduction in the armed forces and armaments of the Warsaw Pact countries while preserving its own potential in this sphere. Moreover a preliminary condition is set: The Warsaw Pact countries must "acknowledge" their supposed superiority.

NATO's so-called response to the Warsaw Pact countries' Budapest proposals shows clearly that the NATOites are trying to keep the problems of ridding Europe of nuclear weapons and lowering confrontation here in the conventional arms sphere confined within a vicious circle. The attainment of the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe is blocked by references to the lack of measures in the sphere of reducing conventional arms, while impassable barriers made up of artificially adduced linkages, conditions, and stipulations are erected in the path of conventional arms reduction.

The competent Soviet organs and departments are carefully studying all the relevant documents from the NATO Council session. Of course, there will also be consultations on this question with the USSR's Warsaw Pact allies, after which an official response will be given to the documents of the December NATO Council session. It is clear, however, that progress is resolving the problem of reducing armed forces and conventional arms still depends on the NATO countries' sincere readiness to seriously to tackle this matter.

CHERVOV DETAILS 'DESTABILIZING NATURE' OF SDI

AU161324 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 11 Dec 86 p 6

[Report on statement by USSR Colonel General Nikolay Chervov given to NOVOSTI military commentator Vasiliy Morozov: "The Destabilizing Nature of the So-Called Strategic Defense Initiative; the United States Acts Against the Antimissile Defense Treaty" -- date and place not given; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] Since the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik, Washington representatives have been trying to claim that the American so-called Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program and the Soviet-American treaty on antimissile defense are, on the whole, mutually compatible. In a talk with NOVOSTI's military commentator Vasiliy Morozov, Soviet military expert Colonel General Nikolay Chervov comments on these statements by Washington representatives:

The U.S. Administration invokes the well-known Agreed Statement (D) on the antimissile defense treaty and asserts that the United States is "legally and morally entitled" to realize the SDI program and that this program is being carried out "in full compliance with the antimissile defense treaty." In so doing the U.S. Administration deliberately distorts the substance of the issue and relies on the lack of information. Judge for yourself: It is possible to speak about some sort of legal entitlement to SDI when Article 1 of the antimissile defense treaty prohibits the deployment of such a system on a country's territory or the creation of the foundation for any such sort of defense? Article 5 of the treaty prohibits the development, testing, and deployment of space-based antimissile defense systems or components, regardless of the kind of technology on which they are based. The U.S. activity oriented to transporting antimissile defense components into space is directly aimed against these fundamental provisions of the antimissile defense treaty.

The Agreed Statement (D) is an integral part of the antimissile defense treaty and cannot be set against the other provisions of the treaty, particularly Article 5. [paragraph continues]

This Agreed Statement (D) permits the development and testing of antimissile defense devices based on physical principles other than those that existed at the time of the signing of the treaty, but only within the framework of a limited sphere of antimissile defense (with a range of 150 km), which is defined for each side by Article 3 of the treaty and which applies only to deployment of stationary ground systems in that area. Thus, the United States is neither legally nor morally entitled to realize the SDI program.

From its very foundations, the SDI program is at sharp variance with the antimissile defense treaty. It robs the treaty of its purpose, and thus disturbs the mechanism for stopping the process of a feverish arms buildup. It is directly oriented toward the deployment of weapons in space and as a result it will inevitably become a strong catalyst of a feverish arms buildup in all respects. It will greatly weaken the security of both the USSR and the United States, as well as the security of the whole world. This program is the main obstacle in the way of a nuclear-free world.

It is no coincidence that in the United States, efforts to maneuver around the antimissile defense treaty have begun: Various interpretations of it have been put forward and even a proposal that this treaty be replaced by some sort of new agreement that would not be at variance with the SDI program and would provide for the deployment of antimissile systems in space. Considering that, in Washington's view, the SDI is not at variance with the antimissile defense treaty, one might well ask why in Reykjavik the U.S. President proposed a new agreement to replace the existing permanent antimissile defense treaty at the same time as an agreement on reducing strategic offensive weapons? It is precisely in answering this question that it is possible to expose two approaches to the problem.

The USSR would like to strengthen this treaty; it would like the two sides to pledge not to exceed its framework as long as possible or to undertake anything that would disturb the limits prescribed by the treaty. The United States -- even though it agrees not to exceed the framework of the antimissile defense treaty for a certain number of years -- would like to work within the framework of the SDI program during these years in such a way as to be able to carry out tests of antimissile defense components in space so that when the deadline for not exceeding the obligations defined in the treaty expires, it could immediately begin deploying new offensive space weapons the following day. In other words, the USSR regards the antimissile defense treaty as the fundamental basis for ensuring stable strategic mutual relations between the two sides and is firmly and consistently for strengthening the order established by the treaty. The United States expresses its "concern" for the fate of this document in word only; in reality it is bent on disturbing it and undermining it not only as a whole, but also in its individual parts.

The U.S. Administration alleges that the SDI is defensive. Well, it is an exclusively military program. Within the framework of this program the most modern weapons are being developed (laser, ray, and kinetic weapons; electromagnetic cannons, self-homing missiles and projectiles), weapons that have great destructive power and the ability to selectively destroy objects in space thousands of miles away and on earth from space, within a brief span of time and on a mass scale. By their range these weapons are global weapons: Deployed in orbit around the earth and equipped with maneuvering systems, they would be capable of appearing at any time over the territory of any state and genuinely threatening its security.

The offensive space devices that are being developed by the United States are, according to their properties, offensive weapons. First, they can be used to destroy the other side's most important space satellites unexpectedly, with the objective of "blinding" it, surprising it, and thus depriving it of the opportunity to launch a retaliatory action for a nuclear attack.

Second, space devices have a very long range -- 4-5,000 km. Can a weapon with a range of 4-5,000 km be regarded as defensive? Of course not. It is a universal weapon, capable of destroying objects in space, and objects on earth from space.

The SDI program concentrates on acquiring a first-strike capability and gaining military superiority over the USSR and other countries with the aim of blackmailing them and foisting its will on them. This means that, in a purely military sense, the SDI today undermines the existing strategic equilibrium.

Why is the White House pushing this program and giving it priority? It is doing so, above all, for the benefit of the military-industrial complex, which will make huge profits. According to an estimate by American experts, in the stage of research and test-construction work within the framework of SDI alone, industrial companies could make $70 billion profit in 10 years. The SDI is the "insurance" for the prosperity of the arms manufacturers.

At the meeting in Reykjavik the U.S. Administration revealed its true intentions: Proclaiming its dedication to the regime of the antimissile defense treaty, it tried to get the USSR to accept the testing and deployment of space components of the antimissile defense system, while simultaneously reducing the USSR and U.S. ballistic missiles by 50 percent. What is the objective being pursued here?

With the agreement of the Soviet Union, during the agreed period (10 years), the United States, while formally adhering to the antimissile defense treaty, would like to develop and test everything that is required for deploying an extensive antimissile defense system with space elements. When this work has been completed and the feasibility of the SDI proved the United States will begin to deploy its space antimissile defense system and simply brush the antimissile defense treaty aside. By that time, according to Washington's plans, the two sides would have carried out a far-reaching reduction of their ballistic missiles, to the level of 4,500 warheads for example, and that would already make the buildup of a space antimissile defense much easier and create faith in its reliability.

It must be clear to everyone that we will not help the United States to render us defenseless against it. The Soviet Union regards the SDI program is being directly aimed against itself. This military program must be halted (with the exception of laboratory research and tests). Here, no compromise is possible. If the United States continues work on the SDI program, and thus also carries out tests of antimissile defense components in space, the USSR will be forced to adopt appropriate retaliatory measures which will devalue the SDI. The USSR is able to do so. Our retaliatory measures will make it necessary for the United States to search for a response to them. And where will that lead? To a feverish arms buildup which will drag on for decades.

In Reykjavik Mikhail Gorbachev submitted proposals that would create a new situation between the USSR and the United States, including at the talks in Geneva. If the United States really wishes a radical disarmament, this task could be solved now: The USSR is willing, in the event agreement is reached on strengthening the regime of the antimissile defense treaty, to come to an agreement on a deep reduction of strategic offensive arms and the elimination of intermediate-range weapons in Europe.

U.S. VIOLATION OF SALT II POSES 'DANGER'

LD161818 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

In their recent message to President Reagan 57 American senators expressed concern at the U.S. Administration's rejection of the SALT-2 treaty. The senators qualify this step taken by the White House as being detrimental to the national security of the United States.

Indeed, the threat to the whole world increases and in this respect the United States is no exception.

The wrecking of the structure of restraining the race in strategic offensive arms would have unpredictable consequences. In the SALT-2 treaty and the SALT-1 agreement there are many provisions enabling the USSR and the United States reliably to monitor the development of the strategic situation. Each side has a possibility to predict what can happen in the strategic field on the other side and know that this can not transcend certain limits. And it is this that ensured strategic stability and impeded the possibility of disrupting parity by drastically building up strategic offensive arms.

Then there is yet another very important aspect of the Soviet-American accords on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. The SALT-2 treaty bans the creation of impediments to national technical means of verification of the other side, in particular, observation satellites and also the masking of strategic arms. In the absence of the treaty any side can consider itself free of these obligations as well and create additional difficulties for the other side in evaluating its strategic offensive forces and, I would even say, intentions. This is another factor that will enhance instability, a drastic decline in trust and a growth of suspiciousness with all the ensuring consequences. There arises the danger of a sort of strategic chaos.

The White House clearly did not give all this much thought. Trying to make up to the extreme right-wing circles in the United States for his "two-day infatuation" with a vision of a nuclear-free world in Reykjavik, the President evidently decided to show these circles that he not only does not intend to press for many progress along the road to limiting and eliminating nuclear arms but even intends in the remaining two years in office to make a serious effort to put an end to the existing agreements and totally wreck the existing regime of restraining the arms race. More than that, he thereby tries to fetter also the future administrations to the arms race. But such a policy poses a danger to the whole world, including to the United States.

PRAVDA'S AFANASYEV ARGUES NEED FOR COEXISTENCE

PM101645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[V. Afanasyev article: "The New Political Thinking" -- capitalized words between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] The most acute problem facing mankind now is the problem of war and peace. The problem as such is not new; wars have "accompanied" mankind throughout its history. Scientists have calculated that of the 4,500 years of recorded history only about 300 years were absolutely peaceful. During the remaining time people were fighting with each other in various parts of the world on a large or small scale. Until the present century it was a question of /LOCAL/ wars, limited in terms of both territory and the number of states taking part in them. Wars of this kind still take place today (the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, and so forth).

The 20th century has given birth to a new type of war -- /WORLD WAR/ -- in which dozens of countries and tens of millions of people take part. Mankind has survived two such wars. In the first, 38 states took part; 74 million people were mobilized; 10 million people were killed, and 20 million were wounded or shell-shocked. In the second, 72 states took part; 110 million people were placed under arms, and the toll in human lives amounted to 55 million.

The specter of a new world war, a monstrous thermonuclear war, is hovering in the air today. And what is more, it is not so much a specter as a real danger. The means of waging such war -- stockpiles of nuclear weapons -- are available, and there are people capable of detonating these stockpiles. They are the darkest forces of imperialist reaction.

Should such a war break out, it would probably be mankind's last war. The nuclear holocaust would reduce everything to ashes; the devastating nuclear blast would destroy everything in its path, and the lethal radioactive poison would put an end to human civilization and clearly destroy all life on earth.

To be or not to be -- this cannot be a rhetorical question when it applies to mankind as a whole. How can the problem of war and peace be resolved in favor of peace? How can peace be preserved and social and individual progress ensured? These are very complex questions indeed.

In order to answer them, the former "pre-nuclear," "pre-space age" thinking in politics is no longer any use. What is needed is new political thinking in line with the present-day historical conditions.

V.I. Lenin stood at the cradle of this thinking. It is based on the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. Lenin was deeply convinced that socialism would sooner or later triumph throughout the world. However, this victory cannot occur simultaneously in all countries. Depending on the level of economic development, the acuteness of the class struggle, the correlation of social forces, and other conditions, certain countries will achieve socialism earlier than others. Proceeding from this premise, Lenin drew the conclusion that during the long historical period when socialist countries and capitalist countries will exist side by side, they will have to coexist; they will have live with each other on earth. Lenin was an advocate of peaceful coexistence, and the Communist Party and the Soviet state have based their relations with capitalist countries on this Leninist principle.

Peaceful coexistence presupposes the renunciation of war as well as the use of, or threat of the use of, force as a means of resolving disputes; the settling of such disputes by means of negotiations; noninterference in each other's internal affairs and consideration of one another's legitimate interests; a people's right to decide their own destiny; strict observance of states' sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the inviolability of their borders; cooperation based on complete equality and mutual advantage; and conscientious implementation of all obligations ensuing from generally accepted principles and norms of international law and international treaties that have been concluded.

V.I. Lenin lived, worked, thought, and fought at a time when science was only beginning to penetrate into the realm of the atom, and its nucleus remained a well-sealed secret. The nuclear danger which is now hovering over mankind did not exist.

Since V.I. Lenin's death, and especially in recent decades, the historical situation has changed radically; we have entered the /NUCLEAR AND SPACE AGE/. A nuclear monster has been created, and as a result mankind itself is in great danger.

History itself has set both theory and practice a task of fundamental importance, the task of preserving peace, preventing a nuclear holocaust, and -- without closing our eyes to social, political, and ideological contradictions -- mastering the science and art of behaving with restraint and circumspection in the international arena and living in a civilized fashion. In other words, creating conditions of correct international conduct and cooperation. The CPSU has resolved this task. The /CONCEPT OF THE NEW POLITICAL THINKING/ provides the answer to the aforesaid situations.

The main ideas and premises on which this concept is based are contained in the materials of the 27th CPSU Congress. The present-day world has become too small and fragile for wars and power politics, the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the congress noted. The world has become fragile because it could shatter like a nut under the impact of even a small part of the stockpile of nuclear bombs. The world has become small because delivery vehicles have been built which are capable of sending these bombs to any part of the earth within minutes.

"The world cannot be saved and preserved," the report said, "unless ideas and actions which have for centuries been based on the permissibility of wars and armed conflicts are discarded resolutely and irreversibly."

/THE RENUNCIATION OF WARS AND POWER POLITICS/ in the nuclear and space age is the main premise on which the concept of the new political thinking is built. This concept was further developed in subsequent party documents and speeches by the Central Committee general secretary. M.S. Gorbachev's materials and speeches during his recent visit to India have contributed a great deal to its development.

/THE CONCEPT OF THE NEW POLITICAL THINKING MEANS A PROFOUND AND UNPREJUDICED UNDERSTANDING OF THE NUCLEAR AND SPACE REALITIES OF OUR TIME, AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS THAT:/

In our time, when weapons have been created which call into question the very existence of mankind, there is only one choice; namely, to coexist or cease existing. Thus it is not just a matter of rivalry and confrontation between two social systems but a matter of choosing between survival and mutual destruction;

The highly complex problems and profound differences and conflicts which prevail in the present-day world can be resolved only by political means, by means of talks rather than by means of science and technology; and still less by means of military force, the force of arms;

The differences in sociopolitical systems, ideology, and specific national, cultural, and other features are not an obstacle to dialogue for the sake of peace. While giving up none of its national pride, interests, or values, every nation must be able to channel them into the achievement of the main aim -- saving human civilization;

All countries of the world are interconnected and interdependent; all people live on one planet, the earth;

Victory in nuclear war is unthinkable; there can be no victors -- only the vanquished -- in such a war;

The ideas of achieving military superiority are unrealizable and illusory;

Space belongs to all mankind, and its use for military purposes would be inhumane and illegal;

In order to survive, mankind must prevent the militarization of space and eliminate nuclear weapons from the earth;

All countries and peoples -- be they big, medium, or small -- must take part in the effort to build peace and reliable security;

The security of some countries cannot be ensured at the expense of others; security can only be identical, mutual, and comprehensive -- international security, that is. There is only one world, and its security is indivisible;

Human values must be given priority since the world belongs to people, to the present and future generations;

Human life must be recognized as the supreme value, because only man is the creator of the material and spiritual values which society possesses, and only his creative genius ensures progress and civilization in conditions of peace.

In giving priority to common human values and human life and advocating a nonviolent world, the CPSU in no way renounces the party and class approach to social processes and wars. The CPSU's main aim has been and remains the ultimate aim of the working class -- the building of communism. The CPSU supports the international workers, communists, and national liberation movements and wages an uncompromising ideological struggle against its class enemies.

Marxists are not pacifists; they regard just -- defensive and liberation -- wars as natural and normal.

In conducting their affairs in the international arena, the CPSU and the Soviet state are strictly guided by the principles of the new political thinking. The preservation and consolidation of peace and the reduction and subsequent complete elimination of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons is their main foreign policy task. And it cannot be otherwise. After all, peace -- as Lenin himself said -- is socialism's ideal. And peace is especially vital for us now, because only in conditions of peace can we implement the impressive programs of restructuring and accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

The party is sparing no effort to achieve this aim -- the preservation of peace.

The program for building a nuclear-free world put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in his 15 January 1986 statement is imbued with a sense of great responsibility for the fate of mankind and its survival.

Acting consistently, step by step, beginning with the current year, which has been declared International Peace Year by the United Nations, it is possible to implement and complete the process of delivering the earth from nuclear weapons. Provided, of course, that the creation of space strike arms is completely abandoned.

If this program were adopted, it would only take 15 years to translate it into reality. We could enter the third millennium free from the threat of "nuclear winter," under clear skies which will never be marred by lethal nuclear clouds. But in order to achieve this, tremendous efforts on the part of governments, parties, all peace-loving forces, and all peoples are needed.

The program makes provision for the complete elimination of chemical weapons and of the industrial base for their production, and also for a reduction in conventional arms and armed forces.

Important disarmament initiatives were put forward at the 27th CPSU Congress. The CPSU Central Committee Political Report contained a proposal to create a comprehensive system of international security and showed the basic foundations of such a system in the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres.

The question of a moratorium on all nuclear explosions is of exceptional, not to say key, importance for the cause of disarmament. A positive solution to this question would put an end to the qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and pave the way for their reduction. After all, ultimately it is necessary to halt the senseless and extremely dangerous nuclear arms race, to put an end to it!

Clearly aware of this, the Soviet Union declared a moratorium on all nuclear explosions on 6 August 1985 (the 40th anniversary of the day the U.S. dropped an atom bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima). We have extended this moratorium four times in the hope that the United States would follow our example. It did not. On the contrary, around 30 nuclear devices have been detonated under the Nevada desert while our moratorium has been in force.

In October 1986, in Reykjavik, accords of historic significance were achieved. A world without nuclear weapons came into sight, not as a mirage, but as a possible reality which could take shape as soon as tomorrow -- provided that both sides want this and show responsibility. However, the reality did not materialize because of the notorious SDI program, which the incumbent of the White House literally clung to.

The Soviet Union, loyal to the spirit of Reykjavik, regards it as a point of departure from which we must advance in the cause of disarmament toward the reduction and complete elimination of nuclear weapons and the nonmilitarization of space.

Convincing evidence of the desire to implement the principles of the new political thinking is provided by the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi on 27 November 1986.

Building such a world, the declaration says, calls for specific and immediate measures aimed at disarmament; it could be achieved by concluding agreements on:

The total destruction of nuclear arsenals by the end of the current century;
A ban on the placement of any weapons in space, which is the common asset of mankind;
A total nuclear test ban;
A ban on the development of new types of mass destruction weapons;
A ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of the stockpiles of these weapons;
And a reduction in the level of conventional arms and armed forces.

The Soviet Union and India proposed that an international convention be concluded banning the use or threat of the use of nuclear weapons until these weapons are eliminated.

There are still many difficulties hampering the implementation of these proposals, since the leaders of the United States and certain other Western countries do not want to think and act along new lines in politics and are clinging to the unrealizable idea of achieving military superiority.

It is true that they sometimes say good and useful things. Let us recall Geneva in November 1985 in this context. There, the U.S. President agreed "that nuclear war must never be unleashed and that there can be no winners in such a war." In the joint Soviet-U.S. statement the importance of preventing any war, whether nuclear or conventional, was emphasized, and the desire was expressed to "forestall an arms race in space and end it on earth, to limit and reduce nuclear arms, and to strengthen strategic stability."

Sensible words. It was these words which engendered the "spirit of Geneva," the spirit of hope. It seemed that fresh, warm winds were about to begin to blow which would melt the ice of the "cold war." [PRAVDA in Russian on 5 December in its Second Edition replaces the preceding sentence with the following: "It seemed that fresh, warm winds were about to blow, and our planet would become warmer."] However, this did not happen because these words of the U.S. President remained mere words, in contrast to his actions which have worked and continue to work against the interests of peace and people's security. The implementation of unprecedented military programs, the feverish efforts to translate the SDI plans into reality, the nuclear tests carried out one after another in quick succession, the breaching of the limits laid down by the SALT II treaty, the deployment of Lance missiles in South Korea, preparations for war against Nicaragua, and the barbaric raid on Libya -- this is by no means the full list of actions which are very far removed indeed from the ideals of peace and humanity. A truly militarist madness has seized the transatlantic globalists who aspire to world supremacy. They absolutely refuse to abandon the thesis that the only way to negotiate with the USSR is from a position of strength, a thesis whose bankruptcy was proved long ago.

The Soviet Union is a mighty, proud, and great country which will never give up its independence and will never tolerate diktat.

Throughout history, reason and madness have been eternal opposites. There have been occasions when madness prevailed over reason, but it was always a temporary victory. Ultimately, reason has always triumphed. We must believe that this is what will happen on this occasion, too. Mankind will not allow itself to be destroyed.

FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PYADYSHEV BRIEFS JOURNALISTS

Assesses NATO Session

LD161522 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- The session of the NATO Council, which has ended in Brussels, has shown that the NATO countries are not ready for a complete elimination of nuclear arms, said Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, at today's briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists held in the USSR Foreign Ministry's Press Center. Linking their military plans precisely to the nuclear factor and clearly being in difficulty to explain their unwillingness, as a matter of principle, to part company with nuclear arms, the NATO members are confined to hackneyed references to the nuclear deterrence factor which, it is alleged, is the guarantee of NATO's security, pointed out the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman.

It is clear from the materials of the NATO session that the United States is departing more and more from the Reykjavik spirit and from the positions indicated there by both sides. The NATO session has shown that it is obvious that the leadership of this bloc has no wish to consider the prospect of a complete elimination of nuclear arms.

We were expecting a reply from the NATO council to the Budapest program of reductions in armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. We have not received this reply in full, Boris Pyadyshev said.

But we would not want to regard NATO's present proposals on conventional armaments as entirely negative. The Brussels declaration on verification [kontrol] of conventional armaments speaks of the expediency of "drafting a new mandate for talks in the field of verification [kontrol] of conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals."

At the same time, the hackneyed idea of "assymetrical reductions" of conventional armaments was again articulated. This meawns the question is really being posed in such a way that only the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact member-countries should engage in reductions of conventional weapons. The NATO session has embarked on an open course of accelerated build-up of conventional weapons by the members of the organization.

Gorbachev Japan Trip Postponed

LD161453 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The Japanese side was officially informed that the visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Japan within the time-frame proposed by it, that is before the end of January, 1987, regrettably does not seem possible because of the Soviet side's heavy workload, Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Department of the USSR Information Ministry, told a briefing at the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry today.

At the same time, the question of the visit will remain on the agenda and Mikhail Gorbachev as before intends to pay a visit to Japan but somewhat later. It would be possible to return to discussing the issue of the time of the visit tentatively next spring, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Telebridge Accord With U.S.

LD161744 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The meeting between the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Viktor Afanasyev and members of the U.S. preparatory committee for holding television debates between Soviet and American parliamentarians was rounded off with an accord on arranging in 1987 for six television hook-ups united by the common theme-motto "New Thinking in the Space Age", Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told a briefing here today.

Under the accord, the first broadcast "Let Us Get Acquainted" scheduled for March, 1987 will be devoted to the familiarization by the sides with the political systems, legislative process, a person's position in society, his or her constiutional rights and duties in the USSR and the United States.

In the first half of the year, Soviet and American televiewers will also discuss via a television link-up such issues as environment protection, public health, international security and efforts to avert a nuclear war. It is planned to discuss in the future, among others, the questions of human rights and regional conflicts.

Telebridges is a new form of contacts between the legislative bodies of the USSR and the United States, an important channel for deepening truth and promoting mutual understanding between the Soviet and American peoples, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted.

JAMMING OF WESTERN BROADCASTS SAID ENDING IN JAN

LD141222 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] The Soviet Union is to abandon the jamming of Western radio transmissions from the beginning of next year, says our Moscow correspondent, who has received the report from well-informed sources in the Soviet capital. The Soviet transmissions have disrupted transmissions in Russian by such stations as the BBC and VOA, and thus it has most affected the Soviet citizens who want to listen to foreign radio stations.

Meets Dobrynin 15 Dec

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SENATOR HART

LD161313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1204 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Fron the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Dobrynin met U.S. Senator Gary Hart on 15 December. During a detailed discussion, an exchange of views took place about the state of and prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations.

Received by Shevardnadze

LD161750 Mocow TASS in English 1733 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received the prominent American politician Senator Gary Hart, who is now staying in Moscow, on the latter's request.

During their conversation Eduard Shevardnadze noted the complex and contradictory nature of the present stage of Soviet-American relations. Preconditions for their positive, ongoing development were created at the meeting in Reykjavik which opened up real possibilities for a cardinal solution of the questions of war and peace in the interests of the security not only of the USSR and the United States but also of the entire world community. The task is to proceed firmly from the positive moments of Reykjavik and ensure a steady advance along the road of reducing and liquidating nuclear arsenals, keeping arms out of outer space, and developing equal and mutually advantageous cooperation in most diverse fields.

However, the U.S. Administration, carrying on its destructive policy, has not only adopted a line towards a revision of the results of the Reykjavik meeting and towards eroding the accords reached there but also through its unilateral actions disrupts the established treaty system for curbing the arms race, Eduard Shevardnadze said.

This is precisely what is evidenced by the decision of the U.S. side to abandon the SALT-2 treaty and its steps aimed at undermining the ABM Treaty. The U.S. Administration stubbornly goes ahead with the policy of heightening tension in various parts of the world and of stirring up regional conflicts.

The Soviet Union, showing restraint and consistency, firmly adheres to the course towards building a nuclear-free world on the basis of the comprehensive programme dated January 15, 1986, and towards the implementation of the other initiatives aimed at ensuring real disarmament.

There was a detailed exchange of views on other aspects of relations between the USSR and the USA, and on some common international matters.

The two sides expressed a mutual desire to develop Soviet-U.S. contacts at various levels, including parliamentary ones, promoting mutual understanding and stabilisation of relations between the two countries.

The day before Gary Hart had visited the Space Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and had a conversation with the institute's director, Academician Roald Sagdeyev.

Hart Interviewed on SDI

LD171140 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interview with U.S. Senator Gary Hart with unidentified station correspondent; Hart and correspondent speaking in English with superimposed Russian translation -- live or recorded]

[Text] In the quest for the kind of international relations which would be based on a recognition of the profound changes which have taken place in the world over 30-40 years, the USSR and the United States could do a great deal. This was emphasized yesterday at the meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and U.S. Senator Gary Hart. This is what the senator said in an interview with our correspondent:

[Hart] I had a very good and warm conversation with General Secretary Gorbachev, a very open and honest one. The general secretary set out the Soviet position on arms control according to Reykjavik. And this helped me to have a better understanding of what happened there.

[Correspondent] The subject of SDI is now being widely discussed in our countries What is your opinion of this program?

[Hart] I took an active part in the struggle to reduce spending on armaments which the Reagan administration demanded, but I believe that the SDI problem cannot be seen in just one dimension. It also involves research carried out by the Soviet Union. Many Americans, including myself, are anxious about it. I think that both countries should approach research in the field of space armaments very carefully.

[Correspondent] As we know, you supported the movement in support of a nuclear weapons freeze. Did this not damage your popularity in the conditions of the so-called "conservative wave" in the United States?

[Hart] No, the vast majority of the American people want arms control and wait a limitation in the number of nuclear weapons from both sides. I believe that there does not exist a conservative wave in the United States which is strong enough to suppress this desire. The majority of Americans want the same as the Soviet people. They want to work and to have all the necessary things to live, and for peace. I don't believe that these values are now any less important to them than armaments.

As you know, the U.S. Congress every year for the past 4 or 5 years has reduced President Reagan's military budget. [Hart says in English "defense budget"]

[Correspondent] In 1984 you said that the United States, it seems, is forgetting the lessons of Watergate. Have you changed your opinion?

[Hart] I don't remember saying that in 1984. Perhaps I did. But when I ran for senator in 1974 I said that the memory of Watergate would remain for about 20 years. And I think that it is. As far as our problems are concerned, we are very open. As you know, not every country is so open in its attitude to discussion and criticism from the press. I think that every time a subject like Watergate crops up, we have an honest debate and an inquiry, and as a result we learn from it.

[Correspondent] What measures do you think are necessary to make relations between our countries more stable?

[Hart] A serious and immediate reduction in arms, [Hart says in English "nuclear weapons"] balanced and controlled; a reduction in tension between the armed forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Europe; more active economic cooperation, and more active exchanges of groups of people and cultural ties.

[Correspondent in English] Thank you very much.

[Hart in English] Thank you, my pleasure.

U.S. PRESS PROBES REAGAN, REGAN ROLE IN 'IRANGATE'

LD151505 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 15 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program; Georgiy Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The U.S. press continues to discuss the details of the scandal around the secret supplies of U.S. weapons to Iran. I would like to hand over to my colleague, Georgiy Alekseyev:

Alekseyev] Here are some new facts. It has turned out, for example, that part of the money made from the sale of arms to Iran was not only directed to the Nicaraguan contras, as became known initially. One of the U.S. papers which comes out in the town of Lowell has at its disposal information that part of the Iran money was directed toward financing supporters of President Reagan at the recent elections to Congress.

At the same time it is considered that the investigation into "Irangate", which is being carried out in Washington by special congressional committees, is gradually reaching deadlock. The third high-ranking official of the National Security Council apparatus, Lieutenant Colonel North, has refused categorically to give evidence on the matter of how secret supplies of arms to Iran were carried out and how the money made was transferred to the Nicaraguan contras. New facts are also being concealed showing that the highest echelons of executive power in the United States, and primarily the CIA, were mixed up in this operation. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes, it was precisely the U.S. spy department that drew up the details of the deal back in summer 1985. furthermore, the idea to carry out the operation in secret from Congress also came originally from the CIA, but the final decision on this matter was taken by President Reagan.

As you know, the CIA boss, Casey, is stubbornly trying to prove that his role and the role of his department in this incident was minimal. However, according to evidence of the same WASHINGTON POST, which refers to well-informed circles, Casey encouraged the secret initiative by the White House toward Iran, and formed his opinion on the basis of intelligence data. The data boiled down to supporting Israel's claims that moderate people in Iran were prepared to start talks with the United States. Thus from the very outset the Iran operation was carried out in close interaction with the Israeli intelligence service Mosad.

The role in this scandal of Regan, White House chief of staff, whose resignation is now being demanded by many politicians, has also not been completely cleared up. It is apparent from the latest reports of news agencies that Regan will probably appear before a special Senate committee to give evidence. It is also rumored that President Reagan himself will possibly give an explanation to experts who are engaged on the behalf of Congress in investigating the circumstances of "Irangate."

By the way, the U.S. press is devoting much attention to the President. Observers are even trying to make certain comparisons between the present scandal and Watergate, when, if you remember, President Nixon was forced to resign. For example, THE NEW YORK TIMES considers that if Reagan admits in the end that he did not know about the actions of the officials of the National Security Council his position would be even worse than if it became clear that he managed the implementation of this plan.

At least, the paper continues, something can be said in defense of a President who, having decided upon a political risk gave an incorrect command that he firmly believed was in the national interest. But absolutely nothing can be said in favor a President lacking in such consideration for his duties that medium-ranking naval and marine officials, among his officials, were able to carry out a policy unhindered which in all probability was bound to undermine U.S. foreign policy.

It is difficult to say what result the "Irangate" investigation will have. As yet everything is being done to remove the President himself from attack. As for comparing the present scandal with Watergate, well the latter was to a greater extent determined by the domestic problems of the United States, and the interparty struggle. Irangate has more serious political consequences, since it concerns trust in the United States, even from its allies.

RESIGNING NSC STAFFERS PART OF CARLUCCI 'PURGE'

LD162221 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 16 TASS -- Correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The White House has officially announced the forthcoming resignations of two high-placed officials of the National Security Council.

Deputy White House Press Secretary Larry Speakes confirmed that Howard Teicher, director of the NSC Department for Political and Military Affairs, was going to leave his post in March. The ASSOCIATED PRESS described Teicher as the architect of the secret plan to supply arms to Iran.

Speakes also confirmed reports of the resignation of the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council and Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Rodney McDaniel.

It is believed here that the departure of these two from the White House is only the beginning of a big purge of the NSC staff planned by the new assistant to the President for national security affairs Frank Carlucci. These speedy measures are first of all an attempt to dampen the scandal that has caused a sharp decline of the Reagan administration's credibility.

IZVESTIYA SUES U.S. CITIZEN FOR 'DEFAMATION'

LD161536 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The newspaper "IZVESTIYA" editorial board sued a U.S. national R.P. Gregoryan, owner of the California international trade firm, for defamation at the Moscow City Court. Genrikh Padva, well-known lawyer and member of the Moscow Bar Association, represents the interests of "IZVESTIYA". The Moscow City Court instituted proceedings and will set hearings in open court after January 12, 1987, "IZVESTIYA" reports today.

ROK 'SLANDER' AGAINST DPRK DAM PROJECT VIEWED

PM121530 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 3

[Vladimir Lapin "Commentator's Opinion" column: "Slanderers From Seoul"]

[Text] It has long been known that imperialism's propaganda arsenals are full of slander and disinformation. From time to time another antisocialist slander is concocted by them and let loose on the world with heartening cries.

This is what is happening now in South Korea. The pretext for the propagandist orgy unleashed by Chon Tu-hwan against the people's Korea was provided by the building of the Kamgangsan hydroelectric power station in the DPRK. The construction of this important national economic project is declared in Seoul to be "special construction for military purposes." It is alleged that the dam and power station will supposedly be built solely so that at a convenient moment the "perfidious North" could blow them up and flood the Seoul region. Truly, only a wild imagination could dream up such a thing!

These and similar ravings would perhaps not be worth mentioning: It's just a lot of hot air. But it must be observed that the present antisocialist campaign about the "threat from the North" in the south of the Korean peninsula is very reminiscent of the notorious American campaign about the "threat from the East." Not surprisingly. When socialism's enemies feel they are losing ground, they start brandishing the specter of the "red peril." Well, no doubt both companies have the same director, and the scenario is a timeworn one.

Another aspect is also important. The vile campaign has been launched precisely at a time when the wave of the South Korean people's struggle against Chon Tu-hwan's military regime has reached an unprecedented level. By painting bloodcurdling pictures of the horrors which supposedly are threatened by the North, the American puppets want to distract the people at least to some extent from the domestic political struggle, cool that struggle down, and save themselves. But the people in Seoul who are hoarse with antisocialist hysteria, and their masters, are doomed to failure. As has happened many times before, their latest slander concoction will crumble to dust without achieving its goal.

JAPAN'S KURANARI MEETS SHULTZ, NATO OFFICIALS

PM161744 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column": "Tokyo and NATO"]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister T. Kuranari arrived in Brussels, where he visited NATO headquarters and met with the bloc's secretary general, Carrington. He also met with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, who was in the Belgian capital for the NATO Council session. Official circles in Tokyo had publicized beforehand the purpose of the meeting -- to declare that even against the background of the scandal over secret operations in Iran and Nicaragua the Japanese Government fully supports U.S. foreign policy.

In the opinion of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, this should improve the shaky prestige of the Reagan administration and help to rally Western countries, so as to strengthen Washington's positions at talks with Moscow. And Tokyo commentators go on to add, as if repeating by rote: Kuranari also assured Shultz of Japan's tireless efforts to lessen bilateral trade and economic contradictions...

These are familiar tactics. Tokyo's representatives are not for the first time taking on the unseemly mission of backing Washington and protecting it against criticism. Selfish interest lies behind this. It is better, they say, to support the United States promptly on military-political issues than to come up against American trade barriers. This was clearly revealed at the meeting of leaders of the leading capitalist states in Williamsburg. Hoping to lull the wave of dissatisfaction over the onslaught of Japanese goods, Prime Minister Nakasone emphasized in every way allied solidarity and Japan's membership of the Western camp, and for the first time adhered officially to the joint statement of the "Big Seven" on military-political questions.

For the sake of such solidarity, Washington is prepared not to mention the fact that this year Japanese exports to the United States could exceed imports by more than $70 billion. After all, American strategists see the strengthening of military cooperation among the United States, Western Europe, and Japan as the path to the creation of a global anti-Soviet coalition. This requires, first, that Japan's military commitments be brought up to the level of the West European allies, and, second, that the strategic triangle be completed by means of direct links between Tokyo and NATO.

The presence of the Japanese minister among his NATO colleagues in Brussels is by no means the first example of such contacts. Some 200 right-wing conservative Japanese parliamentarians, some years ago, created the "council for comprehensively ensuring the security of Japan, the United States, and Western Europe." They have repeatedly attended NATO sessions as observers and received North Atlantic Assembly deputies in Tokyo. Kuranari's visit to NATO headquarters indicates that Japan is becoming more and more deeply involved in the bloc's military-political consultations, and has virtually begun to turn into the "Far Eastern member of NATO."

BRIEFS

DPRK LIGHT INDUSTRY PACT -- Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- The intergovernmental agreement signed in Moscow today, provides for expanding cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK from 1987-1990 and to the year 2000 to produce light industry goods. According to the agreement, two textile combines will be built in the DPRK, designed by and with the technical assistance of the USSR. They will be provided with Soviet equipment. The agreement also envisages cooperation in the manufacture of consumer goods. Korean enterprises will manufacture clothes, semi-finished footwear, and other goods made from Soviet raw materials and products. They will also be exported to the Soviet Union. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Dec 86 LD]

NAJIBULLAH INFORMS PDPA LEADERSHIP ON VISIT

LD161738 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul December 16 TASS -- Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Central Committee, described the official friendly visit to the USSR by the Afghan delegation as an event of exceptional importance in the cause of strengthening fraternal Soviet-Afghan relations, solving the problems around Afghanistan by peaceful means, achieving national reconciliation and ensuring peace and security in the country.

He assessed the results of the visit at an enlarged meeting involving members and alternate members of the PDPA Central Committee, officials on the staff of the Central Committee, of the Kabul City Committee of the PDPA and regional committees of the capital, officials of ministries and public organisations.

Najibullah told the participants in the meeting about the talks and meetings of the Afghan delegation with Soviet leaders led by Mikhail Gorbachev.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee expressed the gratitude of the leadership and the people of Afghanistan for the constructive stand and all-round support extended by the Soviet Union to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

AFGHAN MEDIA CITED ON NAJIBULLAH VISIT

PM151651 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Okulov dispatch: "Strengthening Fraternal Ties: Afghans on Comrade Najibullah's Visit to the USSR"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Dec -- Afghan mass news media extensively covered the visit by Comrade Nakjibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, to the USSR. The newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, organ of the PDPA Central Committee, carries a report on the welcoming ceremony in Moscow, the Soviet-Afghan talks, the full text of the speeches exchanged by M.S. Gorbachev and Najibullah at the dinner in honor of the Afghan visitor, and other materials. The special importance of the visit, a BAKHTAR commentary emphasizes, consists of the fact that it opens new prospects for strengthening the traditional Soviet-Afghan friendship, the relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation, and the normalization of the situation around Afghanistan. It was emphasized again at the talks that the Soviet Union would not abandon its southern neighbor in its misfortune.

"Comrade Najibullah's visit to the USSR," Candidate Academician (Rakhim Elkham), leader of the DRA Academy of Sciences Language and Literature Center, said in an interview with a HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR correspondent, "is taking place under conditions when positive changes can be observed in our country in various spheres of socioeconomic life. They serve as preconditions for successful advance along the path of national reconciliation and political settlement of the situation in the region. And it is along this path that we sense the support and friendship of our great neighbor."

"Comrade Nakjibullah's visit to the Soviet Union will serve the strengthening of traditional fraternal ties between the USSR and the DRA," (Abdul Rakhim), worker at the State Printing House, declared. "Our countries' friendship has deep roots. The great Lenin and Amanullah-khan stood at its sources. [paragraph continues]

The Soviet Union came to assist our people in the most difficult of historical situations, and it now supports the efforts by the DRA Government and people for a political settlement in the region. We workers perceive the Afghan leader's visit to Moscow as an event of treat importance."

AIR DEFENSE CHIEF KOLDUNOV LEAVES FOR INDIA

PM161227 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On a Visit to India"]

[Text] Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, commander in chief of Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, left Moscow 15 December to pay an official visit to the Republic of India.

Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov was seen off at the airport by Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and by other generals and officers.

The send-off party included the military, air, and naval attaches at the Indian Embassy in the USSR.

BRIEFS

INDIAN FERROUS METALLURGY -- Moscow December 12 TASS -- R.P. Khosla, a secretary of India's Ministry of Steel and Mines, has described his country's cooperation with the Soviet Union in ferrous metallurgy as an important part of their economic relationship and said it has always had a positive effect on the latter's development. He was speaking in a TASS interview in Moscow where he led an Indian delegation to talks on cooperation between the USSR and India in ferrous metallurgy, which ended today. The talks covered issues of expanding the metallurgical works in Bhilal, modernizing the iron-and-steel project in Bokaro and building another such factory in Vizaginam. [Test] [Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 12 Dec 86 LD]

INDIAN NONFERROUS METALLURGY -- Moscow December 15 TASS -- The aluminium plant in Korba, one of India's biggest enterprises, is again becoming an object of Soviet-Indian cooperation. The output of gallium, special alumina, and very pure aluminium will be organised at this plant in accordance with the working programme of bilateral cooperation in non-ferrous metallurgy in 1986-1990. It is also intended to build at the plant an energy-saving installation to calcinate alumina. The plant in Korba now accounts for the output of more than 30 per cent of all aluminium in the country. The plant in Korba has become a good school for specialists from both countries. Virtually all designing work was performed in the course of close cooperation between Soviet and Indian engineers. It was considering the big importance of non-ferrous metallurgy for India that the sides drew up the new programme of expanding the plant in Korba within the framework of fulfilling the agreement "The Main Directions of the Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and India in the Period of [up to] the Year 2000". [Excerpts] [Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 15 Dec 86 LD]

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON RAROTONGA TREATY

PM161215 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["Soviet Union Signs Protocols to Rarotonga Treaty" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] On 15 December Ye.M. Samoteykin, USSR ambassador to Australia, signed on the Soviet Government's behalf Protocols 2 and 3 to the Treaty on the Nuclear-Free Zone in the South Pacific (the Rarotonga Treaty) in Suva, the Fijian capital, where the headquarters of the South Pacific Forum -- the regional organization of the countries of the South Pacific -- are located.

The Rarotonga Treaty was approved on 6 August 1985 at the 16th session of the South Pacific Forum on Rarotonga Island (Cook Island). It has been signed by 10 states and ratified by 8 of the 13 South Pacific Forum member-states and came into force on 11 December this year. The treaty envisages the renunciation by those part to it of the production, acquisition, and deployment of all nuclear explosive devices on their territory and bans all nuclear test explosions and the burying of radioactive waste and other radioactive substances within the limits of the zone covered by the treaty.

Three protocols are attached to the treaty which are open for signing by the nuclear powers and provide for their commitments in observing the zone's nonnuclear status. Protocol 1 envisages the commitment of the United States, Britain, and France to apply the relevant provisions of the treaty with regard to territories which they control in the zone in question. Protocl 2 contains a commitment not to use nuclear weapons or to threaten to use them against countries party to the treaty. Protocol 3 contains a commitment not to test any nuclear explosive devices in the zone covered by the treaty.

When signing Protocols 2 and 3 of the Rarotonga Treaty, the Soviet representative made the following Soviet Government statement.

The Soviet Government, which is a consistent supporter of the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world as an important measure in the fight for the elimination of nuclear weapons and wishing to contribute to the efforts of the countries of the South-Pacific Forum in that area, has decided to sign Protocols Two and Three to the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific (the Rarotonga Treaty). The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the creation of such a zone in the South Pacific will serve as an important contribution to forming a reliable security system in the Asian-Pacific region, will strengthen the international regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and will contribute towards the attainment of the task of eliminating the nuclear weapons on earth once and for all.

Expressing its readiness to become a guarantor of a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific, the Soviet Union hopes that all the other nuclear powers will show appropriate responsibility in approaching the initiatives of the countries of that region and will do their utmost to ensure reliably and guarantee a truly non-nuclear status to the non-nuclear zone.

In signing the Protocols Two and Three to the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern part of the Pacific, the USSR Government considers it necessary to make the following statement.

1. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the transportation of nuclear explosive devices by parties to the treaty anywhere within the limits and outside the limits of the nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific is covered by the prohibitions

envisaged by Point "A" of Article Three of the treaty, in which the sides commit themselves "not to exercise control over any nuclear explosive devices in any form, anywhere within the limits and outside the limits of the nuclear-free zone."

2. Point Two of Article Five of the treaty permits that each party to the treaty is entitled to taking on its own a decision as regards whether calls of foreign ships and flying vehicles carrying nuclear explosive devices at its ports and airfields or their transit through their territorial sea, archipelago waters and air space be allowed. In that connection the Soviet Union reaffirms its stand that the permission of transit of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in any form and the calls at the ports and airfields within the limits of the nuclear-free zone of foreign war ships and flying vehicles with nuclear explosive devices on board would be in conflict with the aims of the treaty and incompatible with the nuclear-free status of the zone.

3. In the event of any actions undertaken by the state or states, which are parties to the Rarotonga Treaty, in violation of their main commitments under the treaty connected with the non-nuclear status of the zone and perpetration by one or several states -- parties to the treaty of an act of aggression with the support of a state having nuclear weapons or jointly with it with the use of by such a state of the territory, air space, territorial sea or archipelago waters of those countries for calls by naval ships and flying vehicles with nuclear weapons on board or transit of nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will have the right to consider itself free from the commitments undertaken under Protocol Two of the treaty. In the event of any other actions by the parties to the treaty incompatible with their nonnuclear status, the USSR reserves for itself the right to reconsider the commitments undertaken under the said protocol.

4. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the commitments undertaken by it under Protocol Two to the Rarotonga Treaty also apply to the territory, to which the status of the nuclear-free zone applies under Protocol One to the treaty. In so doing, the Soviet Union reaffirms its stand on the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples under the UN declaration on that issue (UN General Assembly Resolution 1514/XV of December 14, 1960).

5. The Soviet Government declares that the provisions of the articles of Protocols Two and Three can apply to the text of the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific in the wording of the treaty in which it has been formulated by the time of the signing of the protocols by the USSR Government, considering its stand set forth in this statement. In this connection, no amendment to the treaty that would come into force in accordance with the provisions of Article Eleven or any change in the geographical outlines in the nuclear-free zone as set in Point "A" of Article One and described in Supplement One to the treaty, without an explicitly expressed consent to that by the USSR.

SHEVARDNADZE SENDS MESSAGE TO S. PACIFIC FORUM

PM161217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["USSR Foreign Minister's Message" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, has sent a message to Kamisese Mara, chairman of the South Pacific Forum and prime minister of Fiji, answering the letter sent earlier by Kamisese Mara, forwarding the texts of the protocols to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Free Zone in the South Pacific Ocean.

The message reports the decision by the Soviet Government to sign Protocols 2 and 3 to the treaty. At the same time it is noted that the Soviet Union's support for the setting up of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific is entirely natural, inasmuch as this step by the states of the South Pacific Forum is entirely in accordance with the main goal our country is supporting on the international scene -- ending the arms race on earth and preventing it in space.

The bold and, at the same time, completely feasible program that we set forth at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, and which makes it possible to rid the world of nuclear arms by the end of this century, is directed precisely toward achieving these goals, the message stresses. Our proposals are aimed also at preventing the spread of the military rivalry into space. The Soviet Union counterposes the extremely expensive and particularly dangerous arms race in space, which would also become the main obstacle to liquidating nuclear arms, with a realistic alternative -- a peaceful mastering of space on the basis of cooperation of all states for universal benefit and prosperity.

The message continues as follows:

We entirely share the South Pacific countries' anxiety at the nuclear explosions which continue to thunder in their region, and we understand their desire to put an end to this. For its part, the Soviet Union persistently works for a complete ban on nuclear tests everywhere in the world. Serving as evidence of the sincerity of our intentions on this question is the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which has been strictly observed by the Soviet Union for nearly 1 and 1/2 years. Unfortunately, the present U.S. Administration has not responded to the appeals which have been heard throughout the world to join this unilateral action by the Soviet Union, and has thus not permitted a major step to be taken on the road to nuclear disarmament.

In advocating a practical transition to the building of a nuclear-free world and the creation of a reliable security equal for all states, we are convinced that this task must be placed above all disputes between states and ideological disagreements. Its solution concerns everyone.

By declaring their region a nuclear-free zone, the countries of the South Pacific Forum have once again demonstrated that in the process of liberating mankind from the nuclear burden, there is room for all states, large and small.

We are confident that if the other nuclear powers, like the Soviet Union, take a duly responsible attitude to this initiative, and do everything on their part to ensure that the declared zone enjoys real nonnclear status, security in the whole Pacific region will be considerably strengthened.

The Soviet Union has no less an interest than the countries of the South Pacific Forum in ensuring that the situation in the Pacific is determined not by military preparations and the policy of confrontation, but by efforts to strengthen security. This is understandable since, though we live far apart, our shores are washed by the same Pacific Ocean.

In urging the creation of a all-embracing system of international peace and security, the Soviet Union considers that the region of Asia and the Pacific must become an inseparable part of that system. Moreover, our country has made a whole series of concrete proposals on this subject, dealing both with the reduction of naval activity in the Pacific and with the elaboration of measures to ensure the safety of sea routes in the region, and other matters.

We are in favor of jointly building new, just relations in the Asia-Pacific region with full respect for the right of each nation to live according to its choice, and to resolve its problems independently, in conditions of peace and security. We value highly the developing contacts with the countries of the South Pacific Forum, and think they are natural and useful.

The Soviet Union's signing of the protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty is a good example of the interaction of the USSR and the South Pacific staters in the interests of peace and security in the region. We continue to be ready for such cooperation and the unification of efforts in the resolution of the common tasks concerning our countries.

LIGACHEV ADDRESSES VIETNAMESE PARTY CONGRESS

LD151616 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1356 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 15 Dec (TASS) -- Yegor Ligachev, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and head of the CPSU delegation, was warmly received as he delivered a speech at the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress which is taking place here. He said:

Esteemed congress delegates!
Comrades and friends!

The CPSU delegation greets you warmly and cordially on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, all Soviet communists, and all Soviet people. We wish the sixth congress successful and fruitful work in the interests of further strengthening the CPV, in the name of the prosperity of your remarkable homeland and the consolidation of the positions of world socialism.

The Soviet delegation listened with great attention to the introductory speech by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee, which was delivered by esteemed Comrade Truong Chinh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; and the speech by Vo Van Kiet, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam "On the basic directions and tasks in the economic and social development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the years 1986-1990." The report is distinguished by a spirit of creativity and realism, of exactness at a high level in the assessment of the path that has been covered, and by a new approach to defining and solving tasks in the further development of socialist Vietnam. We are convinced that the Political Report of the Central Committee and the work and decisions of the congress will open up an important and qualitatively new period in the life of the party and country.

Following the behests of that great Marxist-Leninist and consistent internationalist, Ho Chi Minh, your party has, in a short period of history, and in incredibly difficult conditions, performed an enormous task. Victory in the struggle with the repressors and foreign invaders has brought your country independence and national unity and aroused the world's admiration for the heroic people of Vietnam. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, and relying upon the fraternal support of the countries of the socialist community, the industrious Vietnamese people are building a new society. The foundations are being laid for modern industry; output of agricultural produce is increasing, and the country's defense potential is gaining strength. Science and culture are developing, having absorbed the best traditions of the peoples making up the population of Vietnam.

The party is doing much work to overcome the difficulties and manifestations of stagnation along the path of progress. It is concentrating the attention of communists on existing problems, boldly revealing the miscalculations that have been committed, and restructuring its organizational and cadre work in accordance with the requirements of transformations in the socioeconomic sphere. All its activity is taking place in an atmosphere of responsible criticism and self-criticism and of observance of the principle of looking the truth in the face. This is a characteristic of a truly Marxist-Leninist party. V.I. Lenin used to say that "the party of the revolutionary proletariat is strong enough to criticize itself openly and call error and weakness by their names without beating around the bush."

We are pleased to note that the Vietnam Communists' drive for renewal is in keeping with the spirit of innovation of the 27th CPSU Congress targets. Soviet Communists believe that the realistic decisions you will take will bring the SRV to a new stage in its political and economic development. In order to implement the plans mapped out by the congress for socialist construction and defense of the motherland, it is necessary to raise the discipline of communists, to strengthen the ideological and organizational unity of the party ranks, and to enhance the guiding role of the Communist Party. The importance and the necessity of this is confirmed both by our experience and by your own.

World socialism has now reached the frontier in its development at which qualitatively new, nonstandard solutions to complex problems, seriously restructuring the renewal of all spheres of social life, are required of the Communist Party in order to open up still greater scope for the emergence of the colossal creative possibilities of the socialist system. These problems were the subject of all-round discussions at the working meeting in Moscow of the leaders of the fraternal parties from the 10 countries of socialism. The meeting, marking a turning point in our all-round cooperation, reflected the striving on the part of its participants toward a full and consistent realization of the principles of socialist internationalism, toward strengthening the bases for their unity coupled with the maximum development of initiative and the energy of each party and country.

Now, about matters in our country. The main issue on which the efforts of the Soviet people are now being concentrated is the fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, which adopted the concept of the acceleration of socioeconomic development. This concept is inextricably linked to restructuring and determines the main directions of the activity of the party over a historically long period. The foundation of the strategy of acceleration and the renewal of society is formed by the tremendous achievements of the party and people in transforming what was once a backward capitalist country into a front-ranking powerful state, where political power belongs to the people and everything is done on behalf of the people.

As a result of the implementation of the course elaborated by the party for the acceleration of the country's development, noticeable changes for the better are occurring in Soviet society. Discipline and order are becoming stronger. There has come to be more democracy and openness in the adoption of important decisions. Everywhere there is a desire to get on with practical deeds; the initiative of the working people is being displayed more strongly. The increase in national income and in industrial and agricultural output this year is the greatest in 9 years. Along with the growth of the economy, the sociocultural development of society is being speeded up and the living conditions of Soviet people are improving. The construction of housing and sociocultural amenities is taking place on a greater scale than ever before.

We still have a lot to do, however, to achieve a real acceleration, to push forward scientific and technical progress, to raise the effectiveness of the economic mechanism and to increase the efficiency of social policy and the quality of people's lives. We understand that the greater the transformations, the more active the initiative of working masses should be. Every person should feel himself master in his country, enterprise, and organization. This is what real socialist democracy is all about.

By deepening the principles of democratic centralism, we are striving to strengthen the role of the center in solving the main strategic problems of the development of productive forces and of the entire system of social and production relations, and of the task of strengthening the country's defense capacity. At the same time, we are taking measures to considerably broaden the rights of production units lower down the scale and of all collectives of working people on the basis of financial autonomy, while their responsibility to the state ensuring a harmonious combination of public interests with group and personal interests is growing. These principles require a wide use of both levers of planning and the commodity-money relationship. It would be utterly wrong to think that the implementation of financial autonomy is a kind of return to the forms of business undertaking based on private ownership. Complete financial autonomy penetrating all the links of the national economy is our own socialist device for developing the economy and democracy, and we have not yet learned to use it properly. Yet we must master it in full so as to accelerate our progress.

In embarking on practical implementation of the concept of acceleration, the CPSU gives priority to strengthening considerably the leadership of party, state, and public organizations, both at the center and locally. Cadres are the basis of success in our affairs. The socialist system can deploy all its possibilities only when socioeconomic processes are controlled by people who correctly understand the political line, and who are professionally trained, devoted to the party cause, crystal pure in their honesty, and possess high moral standards.

As experience in building socialism shows, the most reliable guarantee against all manner of subjectivist errors and deviations from the principles underlying the political and economic system of socialism and against infringements of the rules of party and state life is provided by practical mastery of objective social laws, the creative development and application of Marxist-Leninist teaching, together with close links between the party and the broad masses of the working people and encouragement of their initiatives.

We see our main task as being to more fully reveal the enormous potential of socialism. Acceleration of socioeconomic progress in the USSR and in other fraternal states will enhance the authority of real socialism in the world, intensify its power of attraction, and have a sobering effect on aggressive imperialist circles.

We know that the Vietnamese Communists take a great interest in the practice of the building of socialism in the USSR and the restructuring processes we are implementing. We are willing to share with you all the experience accumulated by the Soviet Communists. But, as V.I. Lenin said, there is nothing more important than one's own experience. We are glad to see that the concept you put forward for socioeconomic policy is free of voluntarism and the desire to pass over essential phases of development, and is based on the principles of the building of socialism which have been tested by history. This is a true Marxist-Leninist approach.

We find deep satisfaction in the fact that the whole complex of multifarious Soviet-Vietnamese relations, confirmed by the USSR-SRV Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, which means both the revolutionary solidarity and the complete independence of our states.

The main force which bonds the friendly relations between our countries is the fraternal alliance of the CPSU and the CPV.

The consistent course for the steady strengthening of the indestructible Soviet-Vietnamese friendship was again demonstrated at the meetings of comrades M.S. Gorbachev and Truong Chinh in August and November 1986, which took place in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding, fraternity, and cordiality.

The summit accords open up a new period of our interaction and an increase in its effectiveness, especially in economic terms. Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation is based in an increasingly stable way on realism, taking into account the needs and possibilities of Vietnam at the present new stage.

The development of cooperation with Vietnam is the international duty of all fraternal socialist countries. At the working meeting of the leaders of the fraternal parties in Moscow, a view was expressed on CEMA member-countries drafting a special program concerning the development of the economies of Vietnam, Mongolia, and Cuba. The Soviet Union and our party will do everything expected of us, and will actively work toward the realization of the program.

Our common task is to ensure that each economic and social objective being built in Vietnam with the assistance of the Soviet Union should be made operational on time, produce the greatest returns, and facilitate a speedy resolution to the problems facing Vietnam. It appears that some branches of the light and foodstuffs industries, production facilities for consumer goods, and also direct trading and economic links with regions of Siberia and the Soviet Far East may also become an importance area of our cooperation.

Comrades, your congress is taking place at a complicated and crucial moment in the development of the present-day international situation. Our parties are united in their approach to all the basic questions of world politics.

In the face of mortal danger for the existence of all mankind, the Soviet Union, recognizing its historic responsibility for the destinies of the peoples of the world, placed all its colossal might and enormous authority into serving the cause of preventing nuclear disaster and preserving and consolidating peace on the planet. Approval by the SRV, by the other fraternal countries, and by the world public of the 27th CPSU Congress proposal on setting up an all-embracing system of international security, and of the peace-loving Soviet initiatives aimed at eliminating arsenals of nuclear weapons and against the development [sozdaniye] of strike space armaments, has been received with deep satisfaction in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, which took place at the proposal of the USSR, has demonstrated clearly that there is a real chance of starting to free mankind from the threat of world nuclear conflagration. At the same time it has also clearly illuminated the main obstacle on this path. The essence of this is the desire of the United States for military superiority, for the possession of more destructive space armaments in order to dictate its own will to the peoples of the world and to force them to obey. To the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests, which has been in existence for almost a year and a half, the U.S. Administration responds with nuclear explosions in Nevada. The United States tries to overturn everything positive that was marked out at Reykjavik, to deceive and to confuse the world public. Such is the will of the U.S. military-industrial complex, for which SDI, the "Star Wars" plan, promises unprecedented profits. And the United States, in no small measure, covers its expenditures on the arms race by exploiting the peoples of the developing countries.

The Delhi declaration on the principles for a nonviolent world, free of nuclear weapons, which was signed recently by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi was such a contrast to this course, this code of morals. The significance of the accords reached during the visit by M.S. Gorbachev to India goes far beyond Soviet-Indian relations. The Soviet program put forward in Vladivostok for safeguarding peace and security and for cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, which is becoming increasingly significant in world politics, was developed further in Gorbachev's addresses.

The USSR is not laying claim to any privileges and is not seeking advantage for itself to the detriment of others. It does not believe in safeguarding its own security at the expense of others. Displays of great power status are organically alien to our policy. As distinct from Washington, we do not knock together militarist groupings. We favor the right of each people to live according to its own choice and to have sovereignty in resolving its problems in conditions of peace and goodneighborliness.

Several new initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his visit to India were aimed at attaining these aims. They included a proposal on the peaceful mastery of space with all interested states participating, and on the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean.

As regards Southeast Asia, the position of the Soviet Union is clear and easily understood. A solution to the problems of Southeast Asia must be found by the countries in that region themselves on the basis of complete respect for their sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity without outside interference in their internal affairs.

The countries of Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam, have on many occasions been the target of imperialist aggression. They have won their freedom and independence in hard and bloody battles. Their striving for peace and international security is all the more great. Your homeland is making a weighty contribution to this noble cause.

The solidarity of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, their close alliance, is an influential factor for peace and stability in Asia. Allow me to express the conviction that the fraternal countries of Indochina will continue to bear aloft the banner of peace and socialism in this important area of the world.

We welcome the reasoned and just line of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia toward a constructive solution to the problems which exist in Southeast Asia, toward a political settlement of the situation surrounding Cambodia.

An important positive influence on improving the situation in Asia and the international climate as a whole would be exerted by the normalization of Vietnam's relations with China. It is our firm opinion that a solution to this is fully attainable and mutually acceptable on the basis of direct dialogue based on equal rights. We confirm our support for the holding of a Vietnam-China dialogue with the aim of removing unnecessary suspicions and mistrust. The many proposals of the SRV on this subject are well known to all. As for relations between the USSR and the PRC, we have been and are in favor of the development of good-neighborly relations with the PRC on a principled basis without detriment to the interests of other countries.

Comrades! Today we stand on the threshold of a new year, 1987, the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We are convinced that our joy in this notable jubilee is shared by communists the world over and by all the front-ranking people of the planet. We are convinced that it will be marked by a still greater closing of ranks in the international workers' and communist movement. Our duty is to oppose the alliance of the forces of war and aggression with the international solidarity of communists and with interaction between public movements and organizations, whatever their orientation.

Dear friends! The sixth congress of the glorious party of the Vietnamese Communists will be making important and responsible decisions. It is beyond dispute that the results of the work of the congress will exert a favorable influence on the economic and social development of your heroic country, and on the all-round cooperation of our parties and peoples.

In your noble struggle for the bright future of Socialist Vietnam, you can always depend on the fraternal support of the Soviet people. Let us continue to preserve and strengthen the community of our parties, peoples, and states.

Long live the tested, militant vanguard of the Vietnamese people, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the party of Ho Chi Minh!

LIGACHEV MEETS WITH CAMBODIA'S HENG SAMRIN

LD161357 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 16 TASS -- The CPSU delegation led by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, attending the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam met today with the delegation of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee.

In the course of a cordial friendly meeting both sides have reaffirmed the indomitable will to continue developing and deepening cooperation between the CPSU and the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, the USSR and the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the interests of the peoples of the two countries, of lasting peace in Asia and all over the world.

The Cambodian leader declared full support for the history-making decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU, for the Soviet Union's large-scale peace initiatives directed at putting an end to the weapons race, at disarmament and preventing a nuclear catastrophe, as well as the proposals concerning efforts for peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

Solidarity was expressed from the Soviet side with People's Kampuchea's efforts to build a new society, with the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea which consistently works jointly with Vietnam and Laos for turning South-East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and goodneighborliness.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON 12 DEC BERLIN AIR CRASH

Leadership Condoles GDR

LD131931 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent a telegram to Comrade Erich Honecker and Comrade Willi Stoph, leaders of the GDR, with regard to the aircraft accident near Schoenefeld Airport on 12 December that resulted in the loss of life.

The telegram states: We express to you, the families and those close to the deceased, our deep and sincere condolences.

GDR Offers Condolences

PM151347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Condolences on Airliner Crash"]

[Text] Berlin, 14 Dec -- The SED Central Committee, the GDR Council of State, and the GDR Council of Ministers have expressed profound condolences to the families and relatives of those who died as a result of the airliner crash which occurred near Schoenefeld Airport 12 December.

HUNGARY'S LAZAR TO VISIT IN LATE DECEMBER

LD161416 Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Gyorgy Lazar, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, will pay a working visit to the Soviet Union in the third decade of December at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SFRY'S RENOVICA

'New Big Stride' Made

LD122222 Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 12 TASS -- Follows commentary by Grigoriy Polegayev:

A new big stride has been made in the development of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation. The objective for the future is to cooperate in an even more concerted manner and effectively since the political groundwork has been laid for a further stable development of relations between the two countries.

This has been most convincingly demonstrated by the results of the official friendly visit to the USSR of the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) led by president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee Milanko Renovica, the talks held with the CPSU Delegation led by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

In the Soviet Union, the Soviet-Yugoslav summit talks are evaluated as common great success, and determination is stressed to develop further friendship and cooperation with socialist Yugoslavia, enrich Soviet-Yugoslav relations with a new content in the interests of the peoples of both countries, the cause of peace and socialism.

An earnest of that is the solid foundation, on which Soviet-Yugoslav relations are developing. They are a closeness of historical destinies and national cultures, the joint fight against fascism and the common aims of development along the socialist path. These are the principles of mutual relations, placed on record in the documents of 1955 and 1956 and in the subsequent joint documents, which have proved effective. The Soviet Union strictly adheres to these principles.

Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation is of an all-embracing character. But no small yet unused reserves were pointed out at the Moscow talks. In the opinon of the sides they are inherent in the introducton of new, progressive forms of economic ties -- broad production and scientific-technical cooperation, a broadening of cultural exchanges and direct communications between the peoples of the two countries.

An important and promising area of cooperation is an exchange of know-how of social development. The Soviet Union treats attentively, in an unbiased manner, the experience of the Yugoslav comrades in socio-political development and, in its turn, value the fact that they in Yugoslavia positively appraise the process of readjustment in all fields of socio-political and eocnomic life in the USSR. The CPSU and the LCY favour a further strengthening of the atmosphere of mutual understanding and trust between the two parties and countries, a respectful attitude to the interests and experience of each other.

The USSR and Yugoslavia cooperate in many key areas of international politics. As the talks between the delegations of the CPSU and LCY have shown, the sides are unanimous in their understanding that at present mankind's most important objective is the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. It is believed in the Soviet Union that an increasing role is to be played in the efforts for a non-nuclear world by such a prestigious and progressive force of the present as the Nonaligned Movement in whose founding Yugoslavia made a big contribution.

Renovica Satisfied With Visit

LD131138 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] On his return home, Milanko Renovica, president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee, expressed profound satisfaction with the results of the LCY delegation's visit to the Soviet Union. During negotiations with a CPSU delegation headed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, conducted in a spirit of friendship and mutual confidence, a thorough exchange of opinions on issues of mutual interest was carried out. It was pointed out that relations between the CPSU and the LCY, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, which are founded upon the principles of the jointly accepted documents, have reached a high level.

During the meetings, Renovica declared, there was confirmation of our mutual confidence that greater opportunities exist for further development and enrichment of relations between the two parties and countries, for cooperation between both sides.

NAVAL DETACHMENT VISIT TO GREECE ASSESSED

PM161447 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Captain First Rank S. Bystrov: "The Golden Lance of Athene"]

[Excerpts] In November of this year a detachment of Soviet warships consisting of the missile cruiser "Slava" and the large ASW ship "Komsomolets Ukrainy" under the flag of Admiral M. Khronopulo, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, paid an official friendly visit to the Greek port of Piraeus. We are publishing our correspondent's notes on this visit. [passage omitted]

Several days before our vessels arrived in Piraeus, many Greek newspapers informed their readers of the forthcoming visit. They followed this up with systematic coverage. RIZOSPASTIS, the organ of the Greek Communist Party, published an item under the heading "Soviet Ships Are Emissaries of Peace." The newspaper ATHENS NEWS wrote: "It is almost 10 years since a Soviet squadron with a full admiral on board last visited Greece. 'These visits are infrequent, but when they take place the have great significance,' diplomats say."

It was hard for us to judge what the diplomats said, but the tens of thousands of Greeks who visited the "Slava" and the "Komsomolets Ukrainy" did not hide their opinions. One in eight of them left his signature in the visitors book. And every Greek word translated into Russian was imbued with sincere goodwill. [passage omitted]

I have had occasion to take part in several such visits to European countries. The Soviet seamen have usually been given a particularly warm welcome by elderly people -- those who lived through World War II and were involved in the struggle against fascism. Young people, on the other hand, more often simply showed a restrained curiosity. But the young Greeks openly expressed their liking for us -- this showed the good future in store for the traditionally friendly relations between our peoples. [passage omitted]

Young Greeks take an active part in the Greek people's movement for the elimination of foreign military bases and Greece's withdrawal from NATO. The National Committee for the Struggle to Eliminate Foreign Military Bases stopped U.S. 6th Fleet ships from mooring in the roads off Piraeus. Following the people's will, the Greek government has refused to take part in Washington's Strategic Defense Initiative, its anti-Polish, anti-Libyan, and anti-Syrian campaigns, and the modernization of American nuclear weapons on Greek territory, as well as in the "Display Determination" exercises... [passage omitted]

Greece well remembers M.S. Gorbachev's words in his reply to the message from the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania proposing a new, specific initiative on ending nuclear weapon tests: "...the task of preserving human civilization and not allowing it to burn in the flames of a nuclear catastrophe is a task common to all states and all peoples." [passage omitted]

When Soviet ships visited Greece in 1978 our trade turnover with that country amounted to 400 million dollars. At the time of a second visit in 1983 it had reached 650 million dollars. Today it is over 1 billion dollars.

Orders from USSR foreign trade firms guarantee work for 130,000 Greeks. The importance of this is evidenced by the fate of the "Hellenic Shipyard." The private owner closed it down in February 1985 as unprofitable. The state bought up the enterprise and reopened it in September, thereby providing employment for almost 4,000 people. Its first order was to overhaul the Soviet vessel "Kavkaz." The shipyard has now started on its largest order -- to build four refrigerator ships of 4,800 tons each for the Soviet Union. It has already begun cutting out the sheet metal. Sevdalis Vasilios, 44-year-old manager of the shipyard (he was recently in Moscow), said that this shipyard, the largest in the eastern Mediterranean, has begun making a profit for the first time in several years. [passage omitted]

Not without reason did F. Engels once say that "the Greeks...regard Russia as their natural patron." This is true -- and they have repaid us for it, particularly in times of difficulty. The Greek Government was one of the first to recognize the Soviet Union. When Hitler's hordes descended on the USSR, a movement arose in Greece in support of the Soviet people's struggle, and the resistance movement that existed in Greece caused the Hitlerite occupationists appreciable losses.

Old Greeks showed up their resistance movement badges with special pride; small, modest, resembling a drop of blood. Yes, time takes its toll, and veterans of the struggle against fascism are today like drops in the ocean among the younger generations. But they have not disappeared. These badges were also shown us by quite young Greeks who had inherited them from their parents.

It goes without saying that not everything is as straightforward in the parliamentary republic of Greece as it may have seemed during our visit of a few days. The country has its own contradictions and its increasingly intense struggle between progressive and conservative forces. Without knowing the language and without reading the newspapers this could be felt even in the "warring" slogans on the walls: Every color denoted a particular party, and among the great diversity there would always be red.

Knowing where Athens lay, as we left we looked in the direction of the tall Acropolis. The ship's powerful optics "ate up" the distance -- and the eternal Parthenon with its columns came clearly into view. The seafarers of old, of course, would not have been able to see it from this distance. But the Acropolis had its own beacon for them: the majestic statue of Athene (the work of Phidias) with her golden lance. Reflecting the sun, it reliably showed them the way. Greece's foreign policy is the most realistic of all the NATO countries and is today a guiding light for peoples being urgently deflected from a politically forward-looking course by American militarism.

...They say that even on visits people particularly remember the last words spoken. Saying goodbye to the commander of the Soviet naval detachment, the Greek Navy commander said: "I met an admiral and I am saying goodbye to a friend."

RYZHKOV TO VISIT FINLAND 'FIRST HALF OF JANUARY'

LD170810 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, will pay an official visit to Finland in the first half of January. He was invited by Mauno Koivisto, president of the Republic of Finland, and by the government of the country.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF LIBYA'S MANSUR

Talks With Gromyko

LD161721 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1633 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- Despite the high waves in the postwar ocean of international life, and despite the fact that the imperialist circles have tried to use them in order to swamp our position [zakhlestnut nashu s vami pozitsiyu] in the principled questions of the struggle for peace, this position has, nevertheless, shown its sense of function and strength and is an attractive one for all peoples. Relations between the Soviet Union and Libya are at a high level, and both countries are fully determined to raise it even higher -- that was how A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, described the present state of Soviet-Libyan relations.

This was stated on 16 December in the Kremlin, when he received Kamil Hasan Mansur, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Relations (minister of foreign affairs) of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who is in the Soviet Union on an official, friendly visit.

In the course of the meeting, which passed in a warm and frank [oktrovennoy] atmosphere, the two speakers discussed a wide circle of issues of mutual interest.

A.A. Gromyko told about the work of the Soviet people on the implementation of the strategy on acceleration of socioeconomic development, which was worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress, about the restructuring in all spheres of social and state life under way in the country, and about the measures of improving socialist democracy.

The attention of K.H. Mansur was drawn to the presistent and wide efforts of the USSR aimed at ridding the planet of the threat of nuclear war in the speediest possible way, the demilitarization of space, strengthening mutual understanding between states, and creating a comprehensive system of international security, including in the Mediterranean.

It was stressed from the Soviet side that a complicated situation had arisen in the world which had posed the age-old question in all it magnitude: To be or not to be? Only now it applies to the whole of mankind and its demands from everyone -- and primarily from statemen -- not stereotyped but new political thinking. It was an understanding of what would seem a simple but harsh truth that dictated the Soviet initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Reykjavik meeting. His approach at the recent summit talks in Delhi was also permeated with this philosophy of peace.

It is truly deplorable that those people in Washington -- who, it would seem, should carry their share of responsibility and a large share, at that, for the fate of the world -- are continuing to cling to the dilapidated dogmas of the prenuclear age.

The Soviet Union, A.A. Gromyko stressed, will not be found wanting in determination to continue purposefully to try to achieve a radical change for the better in international affairs. All the Soviet initiatives and proposals on matters relating to averting the threat of war and to maintaing peace are directed toward this end. But no one should draw the wrong conclusions from our peaceableness. Illusions of this sort can lead to a false path fraught with serious political miscalculations incurring grave consequences.

K.H. Mansur declared that the purposeful foreign policy of the Soviet state is highly esteemed in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The USSR's proposals accord with the vital interests of all peoples and all states, regardless of the differences of opinion existing between them. The Libyan guest advocated expansion of cooperation between the socialist and nonaligned countries in the struggle to establish in international relations the principles of peace free from nuclear weapons and violence.

During the conversation deep concern was expressed over the fact that the imperialist circles are continuing to exacerbate regional tension and to interfere in the internal affairs of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The United States' hostile campaigns against Libya and Syria had become an example of this neoglobalist policy.

The Soviet side reaffirmed our people's solidarity with these Arab states, who are courageously upholding their freedom and independence and opposing the dangerous intrigues of the forces of imperialism in Africa and the Near East, and neocolonialism.

A.A. Gromyko and K.H. Mansur expresed their common and grave concern over the fact that the protracted Iran-Iraq military conflict had still not managed to be steered onto channels of a political settlement.

The Soviet Union's principled position is a position of support for the struggle of the Arabs for their rights and for a just peace in the region, the guest noted, and it evokes the sincere gratitude of the people and the leadership of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

During discussion of various aspects of friendly Soviet-Libyan relations, both sides reaffirmed their readiness to continue to assist their all-round consolidation in various fields to the benefit of the peoples of the countries and in the interests of strengthening peace.

Present during the conversation were Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs; P.S. Akopov, USSR ambassador to Libya; and Muhammad Husni Sha'ban, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau (ambassador) in the USSR.

Mansur Departs 16 Dec

LD161843 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1735 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- Kamil Hassan Mansur, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left the Soviet Union today. He was in the USSR on an official friendly visit.

In an interview to a TASS correspondent before his departure by air, the Libyan guest described the negotiations and meetings with Soviet leaders as useful and fruitful. Discussion of a wide range of problems confirmed anew the unity and proximity of positions of the two countries in their evaluation of the international situation, the aspirations of Libya and the Soviet Union to further develop political dialogue, and their firm adherence to the cause of peace, independence, and social progress, Kamil Hasan Mansur stated.

IRANIAN CRITICISM OF MASS MEDIA 'SURPRISING'

NC141326 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The UN Security Council has unanimously approved a resolution which expresses deep concern at the exacerbation of the Iran-Iraq war. The UN Security Council members have appealed to both sides to refrain from any operation which might threaten navigation in the region. They have called on the two countries to work for rapprochment to achieve a political solution to the problem.

This resolution is very timely. While the conflict between the two combatants is intensifying daily, Tehran has announced its readiness to continue the war indefinitely. It has mobilized almost two-thirds of Iran's population for this purpose. The supporters of war until victory emphasize that their belligerent and irreconcilable stand will not obstruct the strengthening of Iran's international esteem. In this regard, they point to McFarlane's recent visit to Tehran. Washington's Iranian operation, however, clearly shows that the efforts made by the White House to improve its relations with Tehran are in no way based on the principle of respect for Iran's national sovereignty. On the contrary, they are based on attempts to escalate the activities of its fifth column in Iran and to further protract the Iran-Iraq war.

The continuation of war until victory fully satisfies the interests of Washington's programs. The remarks made by those who support this policy, in which they seemingly invite Washington to intervene in this war more actively, also meet the requirements of these programs. For example, what is meant by the statement that Tehran will agree to a replacement of Iraq's current regime with any other regime, even a pro-U.S. one? How can one assess the reasoning behind the statement that Iran will never carry out an arms deal with Israel but that it does not oppose such collusion with the United States? Those who think in such a way must surely believe that U.S. imperialism is more respectable than Zionism. However, this is a half-baked idea. Although the United States has not committed acts of aggression directly against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, it has nevertheless been the encourager and mentor of the Israeli aggressor. There have been cases when the United States itself has been the aggressor. It is sufficient to recall the 1980 U.S. descent in the Iranian desert, its attack against Libya, and the shelling of the Lebanese capital by the U.S. warship "New Jersey." A further look at the general international scene will only serve to augment this list.

These examples do not prove either the respectability of U.S. imperialism or the correctness of the pretexts used by those who participated in the collusion of the U.S. arms deal. In light of this, the efforts made by some officials in Tehran to teach a lesson of ethics to the Soviet mass media are surprising. These officials want to tell the Soviet media how it should report the facts revealed about the dispatch of arms to Iran following McFarlane's visit to that country. Instead of portraying these facts as Iran's wish to prolong the war at the behest of America, they say that the Soviet media should have taken them as a sign of victory achieved by a developing country.

However, the Soviet mass media does not report events on orders from abroad. The Soviet media has objectively reported world reaction to the U.S. arms deal with Iran. We can see that these reports are not disseminated in most countries in a way desired by those who support the idea of protracting the Iran-Iraq war until victory. The opinion expressed by the Soviet public is one which prevails in most countries: Namely, that Iran's real victory would be an immediate end to the war with Iraq and the commencement of talks for a just solution to the conflict.

NEW KAZAKHSTAN CP FIRST SECRETARY PROFILED

LD161304 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Alma Ata December 16 TASS -- The Central Committe of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan held an organizational plenum today.

Gennadiy Kolbin, 59, who earlier worked as first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Regional CPSU Committee, was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in that Soviet Asian Republic with a population of about 16 million.

The plenum relieved Dinmukhammed Kunayev of the duties of first secretary of the Central Committee due to retirement at his request.

Kolbin began work at a factory at the age of 15 during the grim years of the Second World War. It was the time when the fate of the world's first socialist state was decided through the collective effort of all and everyone.

Nearly twenty years of factory work helped shape Kolbin's high business, moral and political qualities. In 1959 he was elected secretary of the factory party organization.

Ever since that time he has been doing party work at the district, city and regional party committees.

In 1975 Kolbin was elected second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, and in 1983 became first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Regional CPSU Committee.

Kolbin was repeatedly elected to the USSR Supreme Soviet. He is a member of the CPSU Central Committee.

UKRAINIAN CP CC HOLDS PLENUM 8 DECEMBER

AU170849 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 1

["Report on a Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee was held on 8 December.

Oblispolkom chairman, obkom secretaries in charge of problems concerning the agro-industrial complex, chairmen of oblast agro-industrial committees, and leaders of a number of republic-level organizations were invited to participate in the plenum proceedings.

The plenum examined the following items:

1. The tasks of the republic's party organization in implementing the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the party, administrative, and economic organs of the Ukrainian SSR to increase the production and purchases of grain in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress.

2. The progress made in carrying out the organizational and political measures drawn up by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses.

A.P. Lyashko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman, delivered a report on the first item.

Those participating in the debate were: V.S. Makarenko, Crimean Obkom first secretary; F.T. Morgun, Poltava Obkom first secretary; Yu.P. Babich, Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom chairman; G.I. Revenko, Kiev Obkom first secretary; N.S. Sabadash, field cropping brigade leader at the Kirov kolkhoz in Chemerovetskiy Rayon, Khmelnitskiy Oblast; V.I. Zheliba, Kirovograd Olbispolkom chairman; I.F. Kalantay, Kharkov Obkom secretary; S.A. Tislitskaya, Podillya kolkhoz chairman in Ternopolskiy Rayon, Ternopol Oblast; V.I. Ilyin, Nikolayev Oblispolkom chairman; V.A. Makhlay, Kakhovka Gorkom first secretary in Kherson Oblast; L.L. Krivoruchko, Vinnitsa Obkom first secretary; V.G. Veretelnik, Zaporozhye Oblispolkom first deputy chairman; Yu.A. Kolomiyets, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee; V.S. Tsikov, director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Corn under the All-Union Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Dnepropetrosk city; I.K. Lutak, Cherkassy Obkom first secretary; and I.I. Shmatolyan, Ukrainian minister of grain products.

The plenum listened to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo's report on the progress made in carrying out the organizational and political measures drawn up by the Ukrainian communist Party Central Committee to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses. The report on this item was delivered by A.A. Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee second secretary.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, delivered a speech at the plenum.

The plenum adopted decisions on the issues examined.

Participating in the plenum proceedings were F.P. Senko, chief of the Agriculture and Food Industry Department in the CPSU Central Committee; N.N. Kovalenko, sector chief in the aforesaid department; and V.K. Lavrov, instructor of the Organizational Party Work Department in the CPSU Central Committee.

RAZUMOVSKIY READS CPSU GREETINGS TO VETERANS

LD171227 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] The constituent conference of the All-Union Organization of Labor and War Veterans opened today in the Columned Hall of the House of Unions. Those assembled welcomed with warm applause the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the conference's participants, which was read out by the chairman of the organizational committee, Comrade Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He delivered a report on the tasks and basic directions in the activity of the All-Union Organization of Labor and War Veterans.

VOROTNIKOV ATTENDS SOIREE HONORING CHOIR

LD162317 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] A festive soiree, which was held today in the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, was devoted to the 50th anniversary of the State Labor Red Banner-bearing Academic Russian Choir of the USSR. [passage omitted] Comrade Vorotnikov was present at the soiree.

BELORUSSIAN PRICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

LD171156 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belorussian 6 Dec 86 p 1

[Summary] The Belorussian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Sergey Stepanovich Ling as chairman of the State Committee on Prices of the Belorussian SSR.

Comrade S. Ling is a Belorussian, born in 1937. Up until now he worked as chairman of the Minsk Oblispolkom.

BLACK SEA DISASTER RESULTS IN PARTY REPRIMANDS

PM161237 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Text] At its latest session the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau has discussed a report by Perovskiy CPSU Raykom on the restructuring of the party raykom's work with ideological cadres and the enhancement of their role in resolving questions concerning the rayon's socioeconomic development in line with the 27th CPSU Congress demands.

It was emphasized that the raykom and many party committees have not abandoned attempts to implement the revolutionary tasks of restructuring ideological education work by using obsolete methods. Neither a fundamental restructuring of the style of the activity of agitation and propaganda cadres nor the necessary qualitative renewal of their composition have taken place. The measures being taken for the selection and further training of ideological cadres do not meet the party congress stipulations. Comrade S.A. Trofimova, CPSU raykom secretary in charge of ideological work questions, was seriously rebuked.

The CPSU raykom was ordered to eliminate the shortcomings noted by the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau. A report on measures taken to restructure work with ideological cadres is to be submitted on the basis of the results of the first 6 months of 1987.

In accordance with instructions from the CPSU Central Committee, the party gorkom bureau examined the question of the responsibility of some leading workers from the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions in connection with the accident involving the liner "Admiral Nakhimov." The bureau noted that leaders of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet tolerate major shortcomings in work with cadres and in ensuring navigation safety and preventing accidents at sea. The AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions commits gross violations of established procedures for sales of tourist travel vouchers and the organization of sea cruises. Severe reprimands with endorsement of Communists' service records were issued against Comrade Guzhenko, former minister of the maritime fleet; Comrade Kuznetsov, chief of the ministry's Main Cadres Admininistration; Comrade Shchegolev, deputy chief of the ministry's Main Cadres Administration; and Comrade Oshcherin, deputy chairman of the "Morpasflot" All-Union Association. Reprimands with endorsement of Communists' service records were issued against Comrade Sukhov, chief of the Sea Navigation Inspectorate, and Comrade Abukov, chairman of the AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions. Comrade Leontyev, deputy chairman of the "Moreplavaniye" All-Union Association, was severely reprimanded.

The Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau also examined materials concerning messages and appeals by Communists. It confirmed decisions on the expulsion from the party of those who have abused alcoholic drink or committed illegal and immoral acts incompatible with belonging to the CPSU ranks, and also of those who have been expelled from the party for having committed criminal acts.

For example, O.I. Kuznetsov, senior scientific associate of the Moscow Petroleum and Gas Institute, was not reinstated to the party ranks; when scientific secretary of a specialized council at the institute he assisted a competitor in obtaining a scientific degree by fraud.

The Bureau turned down an appeal by V.V. Zavadskiy, associate of the Main Civil Aviation Computer Center, who was expelled from the party by Frunzenskiy CPSU Raykom for immoral behavior in daily life, malicious breaches of passport regulations, repeatedly selling motor vehicles to selected purchasers, and insincerity in the examination of a personal case.

The party Gorkom Bureau session also examined some other questions.

NEWS BRIEFING HELD ON CHERNOBYL CLEANUP

PM161631 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent N. Baklanov report: "The Station Is Coming Back to Life; News Conference at the Chernobyl AES"]

[Text] Kiev -- A news conference devoted to the completion of a particularly important stage -- the commissioning of the protective structures of the No 4 unit -- in the elimination of the consequences of the accident was held at the Chernobyl AES.

Many of the representatives of central and republican newspapers and television and radio had been here many times before and remember well what the station looked like after the destruction of the No 4 reactor. They were all the more impressed by the current appearance of the AES.

Quite recently, when the first power unit was started up, both journalists and servicing personnel never forgot their breathing apparatus when moving around the station. Now it is no longer necessary to use these protective appliances -- we are walking down gleaming corridors and passages with new wall and floor coverings. After thorough decontamination, it is clean here not just in the literal sense of the word but also in terms of radiation. Since its revival, the station has already produced more than 1.6 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

After an inspection of the station, a government commission spokesman, the AES managers, scientists, medical staff, and party and trade union officials answered journalists' questions.

"Now that Nos 1 and 2 power units have been connected to the national power grid and the safe entombment of the remains of the No 4 reactor has been completed, virtually normal operating conditions have been restored," E. Pozdyshev, director of the Chernobyl AES, said in his statement. "A full staff has been recruited, and our people are working 15-day tours of duty. That means that they are spending 15 days in the well-appointed Zelenyy Mys settlement designed for more than 3,500 inhabitants and then as many days again resting in Kiev where their families have been allocated apartments.

"I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that we are paying paramount attention to social questions. The children of our staff have been assigned places in kindergartens and creches and enrolled in shcools, jobs have ben found for the women. A sports hall and a swimming pool have been rented for our staff in Kiev, people have the opportunity to obtain tickets for all shows and concerts currently taking place in the city, and tourist trips are being organized for them during their free time. All this makes it possible to maintain our staff's ability to work at the high standard required."

Describing the "sarcophagus" in which the remains of the damaged power unit are entimbed, V. Shikalov, a scientist from the I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, noted the complex nature of this engineering installation which is equipped with an efficinet ventilation and filter system and fitted with unique systems to monitor parameters with the help of modern computer equipment. The processes taking place inside the damaged reactor are under constant surveillance and experts are convinced that the level of radioactivity will decrease all the time.

A. Shekhovtsev, a spokesman for the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control said in answer to a question about background radiation at the station and the surrounding area that thanks to the natural decay of radionuclides, active decontamination measures, and the entombment of the remains of the damaged reactor, background radiation has decreased by a factor of 10-12 in comparison with mid-May.

As for Kiev, the situation is virtually back to normal. The level of radiation is close to the background radiation values prior to accident and on a par with values characteristic of many major cities such as Moscow and Leningrad.

Speaking about the possibility of the resumption of the use of land in the 30-km zone for agricultural purposes, N. Arkhipov, head of a laboratory of the State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, noted that such a possibility exists. Experts of the State Committee and the agro-industrial committees carried out extensive work to assess the level of the soil's contamination with the slowly decaying elements of caesium and strontium. It was established that over most of the territory of the 30-km zone it would be possible to obtain agricultural produce which would be within the safety limits specified by the medical profession. On experimental fields which had been plowed so as to ensure that the radionuclides are buried several tens of centimeters deep, outside the reach of the plants' root system, the green matter obtained was a hundred times "cleaner" than that grown on neighboring fields.

"Following the completion of the entombment of the remains of the damaged reactor, which is now hidden behind thick concrete walls and metal structures, work is in full swing on preparations for the startup of the No 3 unit," V. Zhmurko, member of the government commission noted when summing up the press conference. "At the same time, the station's entire site is being prepared for the construction of Nos 5 and 6 units. Preliminary work is also under way for the construction of Slavutich -- a new power workers' city in Chernigov Oblast: Goods are being shipped in an the river port is being developed. Active decontamination measures continue to be implemented in Chernobyl where currently 3,000 people from among those construction workers temporarily released by various establishments and organizations and who are helping to operate the tour-of-duty system are housed and in Pripyat where the background radiation has decreased to such an extend that we are planning, in the near future, to utilize some of the buildings to service the station. In short, it can be said with confidence that the entire impressive range of work planned for this year will be successfully carried out.

ANTI-EPIDEMIC PRECAUTIONS IN PRIPYAT DETAILED

AU162132 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Dec 86 p 4

[Yu. Vilenskiy report: "A Shield Against Surprises -- Sanitary Operations in Pripyat"]

[Excerpts] G.H. Gladov, deputy chief physician of the Kiev Oblast sanitary and epidemiological station, and I bent over a map of Pripyat city. There were the outlines of the residential districts, of the adminstrative center, and of the hospital complex. The sheet was full of marks. It was evident that the map was in daily use. For a month the map was used as a guide in preventive sanitary operations carried out in the city. Broad disinfection measures were taken at the order of the government commission for eliminating the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

"Although these districts have been preserved and their habitual life has come to a standstill," V.V. Malashevskiy, chief physician of the oblast sanitary and epidemiological station and Honored Physician of the Ukranian SSR, said, "this did not mean that anti-epidemic measures were superfluous here. On the contrary, the existence of garbage and foodstuff remains in the houses provided rodents and insects with conditions for reproduction. Obviously, if no one interfered in these processes, foci of infection might have originated. This ecological precaution had to be taken. As soon as the level of the radiation background allowed -- as a result of the decontamination which was carried out -- to switch over to measures preventing epidemics, these measures were taken." [passage omitted]

"There are people who continue to work in Pripyat: at the AES, in the headquarters of city organizations, at laundry facilities, A.I. Avramenko, chief of the Kiev Oblast health service section, concluded. "There are plans for scientific research works, and the radiation situation permits the question to be raised of accommodating fields shifts in some district of the city. But, taking into account the unusual nature of what happened, it ws necessary to provide a comprehensive shield against any dangers of infection, against any surprise. Precisely such work guaranteeing stable anti-epidemic conditions has been completed recently in Pripyat city."

OFFICIALS DISCUSS STATE ACCEPTANCE SERVICE

LD161441 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 15 December carries the "Problems, Search, Solutions" program lasting for 96 minutes. The program is chaired by L.A. Voznesenskiy and the other participants are: I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers' Bureau of Machine-Building, A.Ya. Yefimov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee on Standards. Vosnesenskiy apologizes for the absence of G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of Ulyanovsk Obkom, who, he says, cannot be present for good reasons.

The majority of the questions and answers concern what the new State Acceptance Service is, the areas it covers and how it fits in at the factory alongside the old quality control departments. Most of the answers stem from published resolutions and the legislation defining the role of the State Acceptance Service and the responsibilities of those who produce shoddy goods.

After explanations of the nature and role of the State Acceptance Service in improving quality, a viewer's question concerning competititon is dealt with. Voznesenskiy says: We have received a very interesting question from Kiev, from Comrade (Dlugach): It is well known that quality is the result of competition -- please take note of the way this is put -- can state acceptance, which is based on subjective evaluations, raise the quality of our output to world standards? Georgiy Dmitriyevich, please." Kolmogorov answers: "The question is quite interesting and, I think, a correct one. However, I would like to say that in the process of checking the quality of products manufactured there are not only subjective methods of evaluation, but there are also objective methods of evaluation. And so, the question is correct in the fact that in our country we do not up to today have competition. And when we have centralized planning and centralized distribution, and an absence of competition in the country for the manufacture of products, then indeed the way the question of organizing state acceptance in the country is posed, is timely and is an obligatory question, because the people who are going to work in the State Acceptance Service are impartial. They are not bound by their pay or by any other issues; they are protecting only state interests, and so, precise work by state acceptance staff, with objective methods to assess quality of production, will play its part, and in the near future; just as the task is posed by the party and by the 27th congress that during this 5-year plan we must reach world standards for all machinery and products."

The panel then describe changes in regulations for pay for quality-control department staff.

Voznesenskiy then continues: "Aleksandr Vladimirovich Kulikov, a lawyer, asks: Is state acceptance to be extended to enterprises producing consumer goods? Avenir Yakovlevich."

Yefimov replies: "Just like all industries; in particular industries producing consumer goods are also involved and will have state acceptance. In particular, from 1 January state acceptance will be introduced at 64 enterprises of the Ministry of Light Industry, on a very wide geographical scale, in all union republics and in all subindustries of the Ministry of Light Industry."

Voznesenskiy reads out a question concerning the world standard which Soviet products are often compared to; Kolmogorov replies, explaining that there exist international standards such as those drafted by international electrical engineering bodies and the CEMA. Silayev adds: "I would like to add that as I see it, there is a double meaning for world standards. First of all, there are what we can call generalized ones, that is, one could understand by this 'at the best level.' At the same time, there is a practical sense for such an expression, because in a number of advanced countries, Japan for example, standards are worded out in advance for new products, and with strict demands, which are, let us suppose, ahead of the present state and compel development engineers to achieve high standards. Here we also plan to review standards -- we will do it shortly -- which will pull up the development people, and bring them up to the highest standards. So there is both a direct and figurative meaning in world standard."

Kolmogorov expands further on the relationship between international standards and the USSR's state standards.

Voznesenskiy continues: "We have received a number of questions concerning the evident lack of checking and measurement apparatus for the new teams being created in the shape of state acceptance. Who is to blame, and what is planned in order to eliminate this gap?"

Silayev answers: "Indeed, the introduction of state acceptance bodies, even as preliminary measure, has posed acutely the question of the need to equip our technological processes with modern measurement equipment, from the simplest to the most complicated modern electronic equipment. We have a program in this area, through the Ministry of Machine-Tool Building and the Ministry of Instrument Building, according to which the development and production of this equipment is to proceed quickly. However, now that such an acute need has come to light, we shall think of augmenting this program in order to considerably increase production of such instruments and apparatus, although the enterprises themselves ought to do a great deal as far as putting exisitng facilities into good order is concerned, and second should participate in implementing this program for accelerated and increased production of means of measurement."

The panel then answer questions on how quality marks are awarded to products, and on improving quality of project documentation.

Voznesenskiy says: "I have passed on to Avenir Yakovlevich quite a few questions concerned with quality of consumer goods, and amongst them there are quite a lot of questions concerning whether state acceptance is to be introduced at enterprises of the Food Ministry."

Yefimov replies: "For the time being we do not plan to have state acceptance at food enterprises. The experience we shall gather during 1987 will show us some things, and evidently the time will come for state acceptance to be brought in at food enterprises, but not at the moment." Yefimov says there also questions about whether state acceptance is to be brought in for consumer services: "State acceptance will not be introduced in the services sphere from 1 Janury next year, but at the moment a document is being drafted on improvements in planning and in economic managment in the service sphere. In particular, there is a change in the principles and demands on staff of consumer services; the main criterion, of course, remains, it is quality of service and the time taken. Furthermore it is envisaged that payment for services will be taken only once the service has been given. That is, all these facts go to show that economic levers will also be in operation here."

Winding up the program, Voznesenskiy lets each of the others reply to some of the questions he has passed them earlier:

Yefimov elaborates: "There is a large number of questions coming in concerning quality of televisions and refrigerators. In fact, talking about color televisions, over January to September, almost two-thirds of color televisions made by enterprises of the Ministry of the Radio Industry have been returned or repaired under warranty. There is also a large number of questions for the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry and the Ministry of General Machine-Building. Hence the question which viewers raise about increasing the guarantee period and drastically improving quality of televisions is perfectly justified, and the introduction of state acceptance at enterprises producing complex radio equipment will,of course, make it possible to ensure greater advances in improving production quality of such expensive goods which have a painful effect on the mood of our working people."

Silayev and Voznesenskiy bring the program to a close with lengthy exhortations for all and everything to be ready for wider introduction of state acceptance, so that people will no longer have to put up with poor-quality products.

PRAVDA ASSESSES JAN-NOV INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE

PM160939 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-union Competition Diary" report under general heading "Completing the Labor Year": "Industry"]

[Text] It was still November according to the calendar, but many production front-rankers had already entered the first month of the 5-year plan's second year. The team led by Hero of Socialist Labor A. Obukhov from the "Anadyrskaya" Mine of the "Severovostokugol" Association brought more than 325,000 metric tons of coal to the surface and fulfilled its plan ahead of schedule. The Komsomol youth team led by S. Spesivtsev from the "Omskshina" Association has been credited with more than 10,000 tires in addition to its targets, while the "Uzenneft" Association's collective (Kazakh SSR) has drilled 264 wells since January, thus completing its annual plan. Many collectives in different sectors of the national economy haave successfully coped with their plans.

At the same time a number of union republics and ministries failed to cope with their sales plan in November. Many associations and enterprises in the machine building complex worked in an unsatisfactory fashion, and output growth in the sector worked in an unsatisfactory fashion, and output growth in the sector was considerably lower than planned in November.

On the whole, according to USSR Central Statistical Administration data, the total volume of industrial output in January-November increased by 4.9 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. Labor productivity in the same period increased by 4.6 percent. The output sales plan, taking into account delivery commitments, was fulfilled 98.8 percent, which is somewhat higher than in the first 11 months of last year. But almost one-third of associations and enterprises failed to cope with their commitments. There were delivery shortfalls of output worth R7.6 billion rubles. The greatest lag in terms of this indicator was allowed to occur in the Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Applicances, and the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry.

In the fuel and energy complex sector, the volume of output increased by 4 percent during the first 11 months. The gas industry achieved the highest rate of development - 8 percent growth. Coal extraction targets were met and exceeded. Extraction figures by petroleum industry workers reached the planned level as from September.

Ferrous metallurgy fulfilled its targets for the output of basic types of metal products. Additional output amounted to 0.8 million metric tons of finished rolled metal and 3.9 million meters of pipes. At the same time, a lag is emerging in the production of highly efficient types of metals. Fewer cast billets from continuous casting machines, less electric steel, and fewer high-strength drilling pipes were produced than planned.

A substantial lag was allowed to occur in machine building as regards a number of types of advanced equipment. Output was less than planned as regards the production of: diesel generators for large-capacity dump trucks by the Ministry of Power Machine Building; two-section diesel freight locomotives by the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, electric motors of a new standard series by the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry; and new generation centrifugal pumps by the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building. [paragraph continues]

Unevenness of work still has not been eliminated in machine building complex sectors.

The chemical and timber industry complex's indebtedness increased as regards the output of synthetic ammonia, resins and plastics, and mineral fertilizers. In January [as published] the plan for the output of commercial lumber and sawn timber was not fulfilled.

Particular attention must be paid today to the performance of contractual obligations. Accurate observance of deliveries is the guarantee of successful work by partner enterprises. An example of high standards of discipline has been set by the "Polimir" Associaton in Novopolotsk, where output is shipped out strictly on schedule. The experience of this enterprise, and of many others as well, indicates that every plant and factory is capable of 100-percent delivery performance.

TASS EXPLAINS NEW FOREIGN TRADE REGULATIONS

LD161913 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- TASS economic analyst Boris Bubnov writes:

The Soviet Union launches measures to improve the management of foreign economic relations, starting with January 1, 1987. Their aim is to bring the scale, structure and the form of Soviet foreign economic relations in line with requirements to intensify the Soviet economy and accelerate scientific and technical progress.

The measures to be taken are to change the situation when disconnection between industry and foreign trade negatively affected Soviet foreign economic operations. Industrial enterprises and amalgamations were actually barred from participating in them. This lessened their interest in expanding the export potential and broad transition to scientific, technical and production cooperation and, eventually, was one of the reasons for the fact that the Soviet share in the world trade did not conform to the USSR's level of economic development.

Improvement of the management of Soviet foreign economic relations is a component part of the general reorganization of the country's entire economic mechanism, the transition of industrial amalgamations and enterprises to full cost-accounting, self-repayment and self-financing, which will promote their interest in raising quantity and quality of goods, accelerated introduction of new scientific and technical development studies and raising profitability of production.

Under this policy 21 Soviet ministries and departments, as well as over 70 major industrial amalgamations and enterprises have got the right to direct access to foreign markets. Most of them export their goods in great quantities or have good relations with foreign partners in scientific, technical and industrial cooperation.

By the beginning of 1987 the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry and the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations will be reorganized, and some of their functions will be transferred to sectoral ministries.

Foreign trade associations and firms operating on the pay-your-own-way basis are being set up within ministries and enterprises which obtained the right directly to conduct export-import operations.

It is envisaged to step up direct ties of Soviet associations, enterprises and organisations with partners in CMEA countries, A large-scale transition will be effected from the simple forms of these ties such as sharing experience, exchanging information, production forms and records and delegations of specialists to cooperation and pooling efforts in research and co-production.

The State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers was set up and vigorously operates. It will manage and coordinate the activity of all Soviet ministries, departments and enterprises appearing on foreign markets. Together with Soviet organisations concerned it took part in elaborating measures to ensure the fulfillment of the planned undertakings.

The order of establishing and effecting direct ties, the rights and possibilities of Soviet partners in direct ties and cooperation have been determined. These matters, once accomplished, will enable Soviet ministries and enterprises to join the foreign economic activity as early as from first days of the new year.

Concrete negotiations have already been under way with representatives of foreign organisations and firms, including Western ones, on setting up joing enterprises on soviet territory. This opportunity for broadening cooperation, that was opened up, evoked the most lively interest of Soviet partners abroad and the first results from carrying through this new form of ties can be expected before long.

Work to effect the reform of foreign economic ties got under way. All measures undertaken within its framework will help strengthen the USSR's positions on the international market.

ABUSE OF QUALITY PRICE SUPPLEMENTS HIT

PM161219 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 50, December 1986 (Signed to Press 4 Dec 86) p 17

[Unattributed report: "Ensuring that Prices Correspond to Quality" -- last paragraph is editorial comment]

[Text] In 1986 a new procedure was introduced for providing preferential incentives for new generations of equipment, and basic provisions for discounts on wholesale prices for output liable to be taken out of production were introduced (EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 3). The effect of this on the production of highly efficient machinery and equipment and top-quality instruments may be gauged from the figures in an analysis of the practical application of incentive premiums on wholesale prices for top-quality output and discounts on low-quality articles. These figures are given below with a commentary by the USSR State Committee for Prices [Goskomtsen].

In 1986 the USSR Goskomtsen approved over 3,000 wholesale prices for new and modernized machines, equipment, and instruments including around 2,000 prices with incentive premiums. The total amount of newly assimilated equipment rose by almost 50 percent. The total number of incentive premiums increased by over 15 percent to total over R600 million.

However, despite the significant increase in premiums there have been no substantial improvements in terms of raising the technical standard of output: Some 40 percent of new machinery and equipment submitted by ministries for approval of wholesale prices was graded by the reception commissions as output with technical and economic indicators in the first quality category but inferior to the best examples in terms of productivity, reliability, and economy.

Such ministries include the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, and the Ministry of Instrument Making, Qutomation Equipment, and Control Systems.

The assimilation of new equipment is still carried out not by offering fundamentally new machines and equipment for production but mainly through partial modernization of output already in production. Most new products have only minor improvements to distinguish them from old ones.

Articles submitted for grading as top-quality often fail to meet those requirements when first submitted for grading. In the machine building sectors 15.6 percent of output had its premiums terminated (through being certified as only first quality). The situation in this respect was particularly unfavorable at the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, where the indicators in question were 78.7 percent and 77.8 pércent respectively.

There are also occasions when certain enterprises continue to receive incentive premiums from customers even after losing top quality grading. On the basis of check results price-fixing organs confiscated as budget income R504,600 of unlawfully obtained premiums from 36 articles manufactured by 23 enterprises which had lost their Seal of Quality. The greatest number of violations was committed by enterprises of the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems.

Some enterprises try to fix unjustifiably high prices and premiums. Incentive premiums have been refused for the updated 15104M mixer, the R63-4B gang saw (Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry), the updated SMA-267A sifter (Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building), and many other goods because they offered insufficient economic effect in use.

In a number of instances enterprises which have received the Seal of Quality and an incentive premium stop "worrying" about output quality and produce equipment whose technical and economic characteristics are below the standard envisaged by the normative-technical documentation and accepted when validating prices and premiums.

As is well known, the new procedure for applying discounts to wholesale prices is to be introduced gradually as output is certified in the first category of quality. In that way scientific research institutes and design bureaus and development workers and manufacturers are given a certain amount of time (before the routine regrading of output) to develop new equipment corresponding to the world standard. If new output of a high technical standard and quality is not created in that time, economic sanctions (wholesale price discounts) come into operation.

The USSR Goskomtsen estimates the total discounts on the output oif 11 machine building ministries in 1987 will exceed R100 million and will increase in 1983 to R350 million. From 1989 on a reduction in discounts may be expected from the assimilation of new machinery, equipment, and instruments corresponding to world standards in place of output in the first quality category.

As a result of the early regrading of output in 1985 only 6 percent of the total amount of first-quality goods will be regraded in 1986, with 20 percent in 1987, and 74 percent in 1988-89.

As checks by price-fixing and financial organs show, in 50 percent of the cases in which output has been graded first-category since 1 January 1986, discounts (in breach of the established procedure) were not transferred to budget revenue by enterprises but were compulsorily confiscated by the USSR Ministry of Finance and price-fixing organs. This is evidence that certain sector ministries fail to perform the necessary monitoring of the organization of output grading at enterprises under their jurisdiction and the prompt use of wholesale price discounts on first-quality output and output not graded by the set deadline.

From the Editorial Office. In the new conditions of the campaign to improve output quality the stance taken by enterprise leaders of from the aforementioned machine building ministries deserve the most serious condemnation. The editorial office hopes to receive replies on the adoption of effective measures to eliminate shortcomings in the production of fundamentally new machines and equipment.

IZVESTIYA DISCUSSES CONSUMER GOODS PRICING

PM151903 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 December 1986 Morning Edition carries on page 1 under the headline "Why Are There No Cheap Goods?" a 1,500-word "Economic Review" by M. Berger.

Having examined at some length the shortage of cheap high-quality consumer goods and the possible reasons for it, Berger concludes:

"It must obviously be recognized that the price of goods should be able to rise, but only subject to rigorous observance of a number of conditions. The producer must not confuse his own labor costs in the production of goods with those that are socially necessary. Any price increase can be justified only as a result of an item's improved consumer qualities and not by production inadequacies or insufficiently skilled workers. But perhaps the main point is to ensure the guaranteed availability of both the latest fashionable goods and of inexpensive and good-quality goods from the same group. In other words, a suit costing R80 must definitely be available next to a suit costing R200, while boots priced at R12 must certainly be displayed next to boots priced at R50.

"Here it is necessary to do some hard work on the new economic machinery due to be introduced in trade and light industry in the new year. The financial prosperity of enterprises will depend not on the gross volume of goods produced but on the extent to which the production program corresponds with trade orders. And one of the most important indicators for trade will be the maintenance of a range of goods on a large scale of price groups.

"The new machinery will certainly help to eliminate faults in price formation. But this will occur only if the producer is assured that he will not be told one fine day: 'Orders are orders, but let's fulfill at all costs the control figures for output volumes!' Otherwise, as in the past, will have to work out the riddle: In what way does the more expensive new product differ from its pedecessor?"

CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON AGRICULTURE

LD171020 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Dec 86 (TASS) -- Favorable preconditions have now been created in the country's rural areas for a resolute transfer everywhere to new methods of economic management and the broad development of productive vigor by those working there. This is noted by the CPSU Central Committee in a resulution on urgent measures to enhance agricultural productivity on the basis of implementing rational forms of organization and financial autonomy.

The practice of recent years shows that this can best of all be achieved when relations of financial autonomy are fully mastered at all levels of production and collective contracting and intensive technologies are introduced. It is already the case now on many farms that, by ensuring a high level of personal interest on the part of machine operators, animal farmworkers and other workers in the results of their labor, financial autonomy and collective contracting are exerting a great effect on enhancing the efficiency of public sector production.

What have shown themselves to be best among the various forms of collective contracting are teams which are small in number and labor brigades which have land, machinery and other means of production attached to them for long periods of time on a contractual basis. The family form of contracting is becoming more and more widespread in all regions of the country.

However, the CPSU Central Committee has noted, much formalism and irresponsibility is tolerated when financial autonomy and collective contracting are introduced. At many farms this work is conducted without the due training or personnel and thorough working out of contractual obligations. Contracting collectives often do not have guaranteed supply of resources, and there are not strong incentives to economize on the latter.

The Central Committee has asked for the state of affairs in adoption of economic methods of management to be critically examined in every collective, for specific steps to be defined for transferring all basic production subdivisions to financial autonomy and collective contracting, and for family contracting and other progressive forms of labor organization and incentives for it to be developed to the utmost.

CSA CITED ON NOVEMBER AGRICULTURAL PERFORMANCE

PM161013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-union Competition Diary" report under general heading "Complete the Labor Year": "Agriculture"]

[Text] "To Fulfill the Plan for the Second Year of the 5-Year Plan by the 70th Anniversary of Great October -- this line appears among the socialist pledges by stockmen on many of Stavropol Kray's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It has been made possible by successful work in the current year, with annual targets for the sale of all types of stockraising produce to the state having been met by the kray's working people in the first 10 days of December. Moreover, the increased output by stock units was successfully achieved without any increase in the consumption of feed grain. The experience of Kirovskiy Rayon farms was disseminated all over the kray. Local crop specialists squeezed low-yield feed crops out of the fields and replaced them with mixed crops. As a result, every feed unit of forage procured for the winter contains as much protein as is required in scientifically substantiated feed rations.

For many rural workers, the outgoing year has been a year of persistent introduction of new methods of economic management and application of advanced forms of labor organization and incentives. It was this, according to specialists' opinion, that affected the work results of crop farmers, stockmen, and their partners. There was, for example, an increase in the output and state purchase of grain, potatoes, vegetables, and fruit. The grain harvest, for example, was about 210 million metric tons, which was 30 million metric tons more than the average level for the 11th 5-Year Plan.

According to USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA] data, in January-November there was a 5- to 8-percent increase in the output of meat and milk on kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and interfarm enterpirses compared with last year. Livestock and poultry productivity increased.

The stockmen have analyzed the competition results for January-November. According to the USSR CSA there was an 8.4-percent increase in livestock and poultry purchases in the country as a whole by the beginning of December, a 5.1-percent increase in milk purchases, and a 5.5-percent increase in egg purchases. Compared with last year there was a considerable increase in livestock and poultry purchases on farms in Kazakhstan and Kirghizia, Volgograd, Penza, Kurgan, and Chita Oblasts, and the Buryat ASSR. More milk than last year was dispatched to procurement centers by farms in Uzbekistan, in Irkutsk, Perm, and Amur Oblasts, and in the Udmurt ASSR. And yet the results of work at feeding units and complexes in Estonia, the Yakut ASSR, and Pskov Oblast were poorer.

Further growth in milk yields, animal weight gains, and meat and milk deliveries to the state requires adequate quantities of feed. According to the USSR CSA, this year's procurement totaled 142 metric tons of feed -- which, calculated in feed units, represents 102 percent of the plan.

The paramount concern now is how to organize livestock wintering.

Purchases of raw cotton are approaching completion. According to USSR CSA data, sales of raw cotton to the state by 8 December totaled 8.23 million metric tons, which is 92 percent of the annual plan. The targets for raw cotton purchases have been met by crop farmers in Namangan, Surkhan-Darya, Tashkent, and Fergana Oblasts in Uzbekistan and in the Azerbaijan and Tajik SSR's. But farms in Kashka-Darya and Navoi Oblasts and in Turkmenistan have some catching up to do.

The immediate concerns also include the preparation of equipment in good time for next spring's field operations. The last of the grain harvesting combines, which started undergoing repairs immediately after the mowing of grain crops, came off the repair line at the Azerbaijan SSR's Bardinskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association a few days ago. Before that, all soil cultivation equipment was brought up to readiness standards there. A sound example! In the country as a whole, according to the USSR CSA, the first day of winter saw 83 percent of tractors, 77 percent of plows, 74 percent of sowing machines, and 73 percent of cultivators in working order. The pace of equipment maintenance must be speeded up.

COSMOS-1807 LAUNCHED 16 DEC, 'OPERATING NORMALLY'

LD170749 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0727 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Dec (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1807 was launched in the USSR on 16th December. It is intended for the continuation of space research. The satellite has been put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution -- 89.6 minutes; apogee -- 370 kilometers; perigee -- 177 kilometers; orbital inclination -- 67 degrees. The apparatus is operating normally.

SCIENTISTS HOLD MOSCOW MEETING ON PHOBOS PROJECT

LD161633 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 9 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Recently in Moscow at the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, a meeting of an international council of experts was held, where there was discussion of the forthcoming research on the Mars satellite, Phobos. At this colloquium, distinguished scientists from the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia, as well as from a series of capitalist countries, met. They do not all want to directly participate in the realization of the grandiose space odyssey, which is being planned by Soviet scientists. However, there is exceptional interest in this undertaking and the most well-known world astronomers and leaders of national space organizations expressed the desire to familiarize themselves with the program of the Phobos project, the results of which will represent a significant contribution to the world treasure trove of science.

The experiments envisaged will shed light on many problems so that guesses and hypotheses wil give way to knowledge. [passage omitted]

Now you will hear the comments of the scientist at the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, Yuriy Zaytsev, an expert in the field of satellite technology:

[Begin Zaytsev recording in Russian with superimposed translation] In June 1988 two Soviet automatic inter-planetary stations constructed on the basis of new principles will be launched within a few days of each other from the Baykonur cosmodrome. The time of the launching has been selected to minimize fuel consumption. After a 200-day flight, the station will arrive in the vicinity of Mars. The entire undertaking will last 460 days.

At the beginning the automatic stations will go into orbit around Earth as artificial satellites and only then will they be directed toward Mars. When they approach Mars, they will, with the aid of a special device, carry out a detailed examination of its surface, atmosphere, ionosphere and magnetosphere. Close-up television pictures of Mars as well as exhaustive data on the chemical and mineralogical composition of its surface and their radiological and physical characteristics will be obtained. At the same time, a spherical map of the surface of Mars will be formulated. We will probably then finally manage to comprehend the mechanism by which sand storms are caused on this planet.

After this, both automatic stations, carrying out complex maneuvers and changing their orbit, will approach Mars' satellite Phobos. This is the main and, from a technological point of view, the most complicated part of the expedition for which scientists have proposed a series of inventive and bold solutions. For example, since Phobos has weak gravitational pull, the stations can research it easily while moving at an altitude of abut 50 meters above its surface, halting occasionally in order to examine in more detail some interesting places. Then, in a rapid, low flight which will last 15 minutes, television pictures will be taken, and laser soundings of the surface of Phobos as well as an examination of its internal structure with the aid of radio waves will be made. Ending its low flight, the automatic interplanetary station will send two pieces of equipment down to the surface of Phobos. One of these apparatuses will move around on the surface of Phobos, making jumps of about 20 meters. The other apparatus will be at a fixed location on the surface where it will, for about a year, carry out experiements, the results of which will be sent back to earth. [passage omitted]

One of the most interesting experiments in which scientists from the USSR, Bulgaria, the GDR and Czechoslovakia are participating, is the laser soundings of the surface of Phobos. When the station arrives in the immediate vicinity of this satellite of Mars, it will concentrate the rays of its laser on a small piece of its surface, the diameter of which will not be more than one millimeter. The concentration of energy on the radiated spot will amount to about 10 million watts. There will be an explosion in which a thin layer of surface dust, which has the same composition as the surrounding rocks will be turned into gas. Then a special device on board the station will determine the structure of its particles. During the flight above Phobos, an analysis of its surface will be carried out at about 100 points. [passage omitted: details of which pieces of apparatus the different socialist countries are specializing in; Austria, Sweden, France, Switzerland, the FRG and Finland are also cooperating in the project]

At present, deliveries of technological equipment for the scientific apparatuses for the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute are being completed. In the middle of December experimental testing of the entire scientific complex under the conditions of its operation in the space station will begin. [end recording]

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

LD111213 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have adopted a resolution aimed at improving the training of personnel for the introduction of new technology. The resolution says that the existing system falls behind today's requirements and the nation's strategy of accelerating economic development. The resolution incorporates specific measures to train workers and experts for the newest areas of technological progress.

BRIEFS

LASER MINERAL EXPLORATION -- Soviet researchers have built a laser system for exploring terrestrial mineral resources. Consisting of compact devices, the system will be carried by planes, helicopters and satellites. It will help scientists discover mineral deposits and define their size. Besides, the new system will make it possible to compile in a matter of minutes the ecological maps of extensive areas. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 13 Dec 86 LD]